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papercraft *essentials*

ISSUE 186

135

hints & tips
for perfect
projects!

PLUS

Use your kit to
create stunning
shaped cards!



BIRTHDAY MAKES

Stylish stamped cards
to try tonight!



Learn new skills

Your step-by-step guide to
pretty window gatefold cards



**15 INSPIRING IDEAS
USING YOUR
IMPOSSIBLE CARD KIT**



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Hello!



Welcome to issue 186 of **Papercraft Essentials**! As I write this the first signs of spring are beginning to appear, which is extremely welcome after such a wet winter! This month we're treating you to an awesome **Alice in Wonderland-themed Impossible Card Kit**, which is perfect for all-occasion makes as well as stunning off-the-page projects. You'll find 15 inspiring ideas for using it in the cut-out-and-keep section starting on page 45. Don't forget to **download the additional papers** by logging onto www.papercraftmagazines.com today!

This month we're showcasing the latest releases from the **top papercraft brands** once again. You'll find designer makes from **Stampin' Up!** (page 14), **Craft Consortium** (page 20), **Lawn Fawn** (page 40), **Hot Off The Press** (page 61) and **Nitwit Collections** (page 84).

As always we have a plethora of ideas for saving money on stash throughout the issue, including some fab ideas for **using dies and cardstock** from Nicky Gilbert on page 24, **six ways of using one paper pack** on page 74, plus our regular **Upcycling Essentials** feature on page 78, where we explore what can be done with **leftover felt**. You're sure to be inspired by Sarah Jane's ideas!

This issue's techniques include a handy guide to **watercolour stamping** on page 30 (definitely my favourite projects of the issue!) and an in-depth look at creating **window gatefold cards** on page 64.

Also this issue you'll find the usual **competitions, shopping guides, giveaways, reader cards and much more** so I shall leave you to enjoy the magazine and kit!

Have a great month,

Lee Campbell
Editor
lee.campbell@practicalpublishing.co.uk

Save 20% at CraftStash!

Sign up to the CraftStash newsletter by going to www.craftstash.co.uk to save **20%** on your first order

What we've been up to this month

This month the team has been busy working on the brand-new **Chloe's Creative Cards Collection** premium magazine, which is packed with ideas for using its fab dies, stamps, embossing folder, stencil and paper pack! It has a lovely floral theme with some beautiful bees thrown in for good measure, and we're sure you'll love it. On sale now!



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Papercraft Magazines

Don't forget to check out the Papercraft Magazines website for bonus projects, downloads and more!

www.papercraftmagazines.com



What's inside this issue of papercraft essentials



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12 YOUR LETTERS

Your crafty stories, projects, gossip, tips, tricks and more!

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essential projects

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24 PRODUCT FOCUS

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61 QUICK & EASY

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84 DIGITAL CRAFTING

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78 UPCYCLING ESSENTIALS

Sarah shows you how to make fun projects using leftover felt

Subscribe today

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and receive a Tonic Studios storage bundle!

Step-by-step guides



19 SHAPE UP

A handy guide to creating Z-fold cards – Sam Clayton shows us how



33 BEGINNER'S GUIDE

Learn how to master the lovely watercolour-stamping technique



67 SKILL-BUILDING ESSENTIALS

This month we show you how to create window gatefold cards

What's hot



Natalie Martin

We bring you the latest news from the wonderful world of crafts



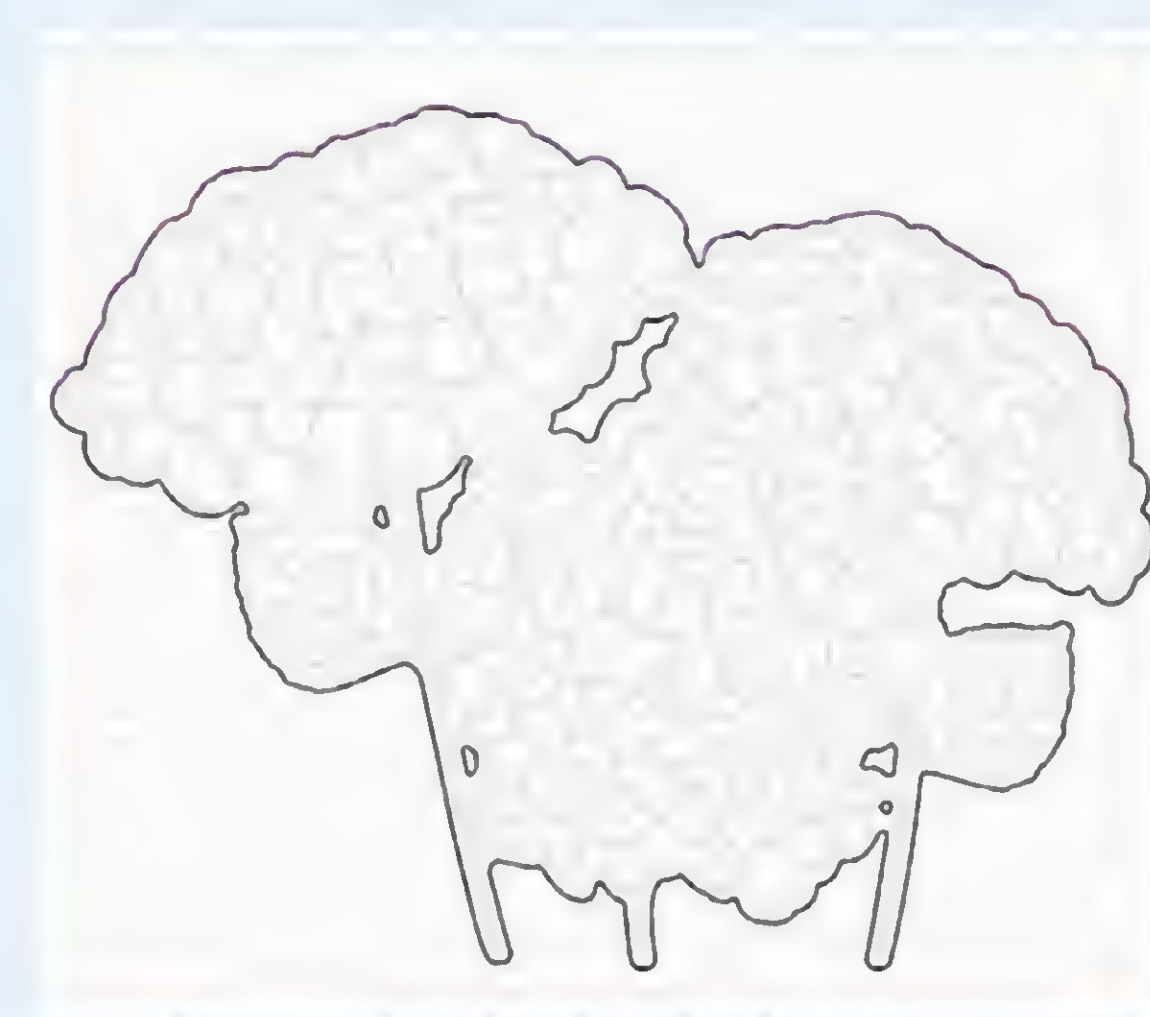
New releases from Christina Griffiths at CraftStash

A new Card Making Magic collection is being debuted over at CraftStash – the stunning Provence range. Drawing inspiration from birds, a well-tended garden and outdoor pursuits such as cycling, this collection has something for everyone. We love the two stamp sets – the first is a horticultural-orientated one with hanging baskets, potted shrubbery and vine leaves, with brick and hanging basket hook details; and the second is a bird-themed stamp set, which complements the dies also available in the new collection. There are five sets to choose from including an ornate birdcage and details such as a perch and branches and six individual birds. The collection also has Christina's famous 5x7" box dies, which come with floral details and borders, and protect your creations when sending to a loved one.

Love this Card Making Magic range?
Visit www.craftstash.co.uk to see so much more

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*Offer ends 30th April 2020
For full terms & conditions see
www.craftstash.co.uk



Blooming beautiful

Spring is upon us so why not prepare yourself by including some show-stopping florals in your craft projects with the Hydrangeas in Bloom stamp and die set by My Favorite Things? The bold and beautiful design is bound to make an impression whether used on its own or as a centrepiece for your feminine all-occasion makes.

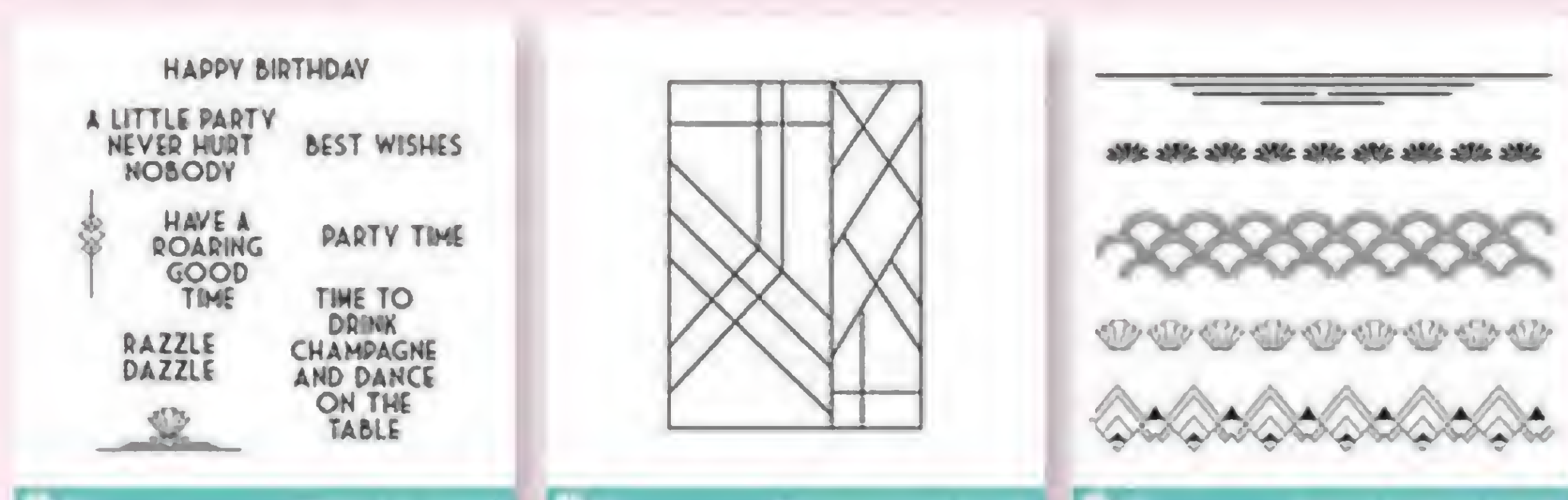
If you want to see more from My Favorite Things go to www.mftstamps.com



Crafter's creative edges

Create beautiful borders for your creations with the fabulous EDGEcutz Collection by Lisa Horton. We love In The Loop with bubble patterns and sentiments to suit all occasions – with each stamp set you will find a co-ordinating die with anything from four to 20 per set, making them a staple for any papercrafter.

If you would like to see more from Lisa Horton visit www.crafterscompanion.co.uk



Uniko's 8th birthday

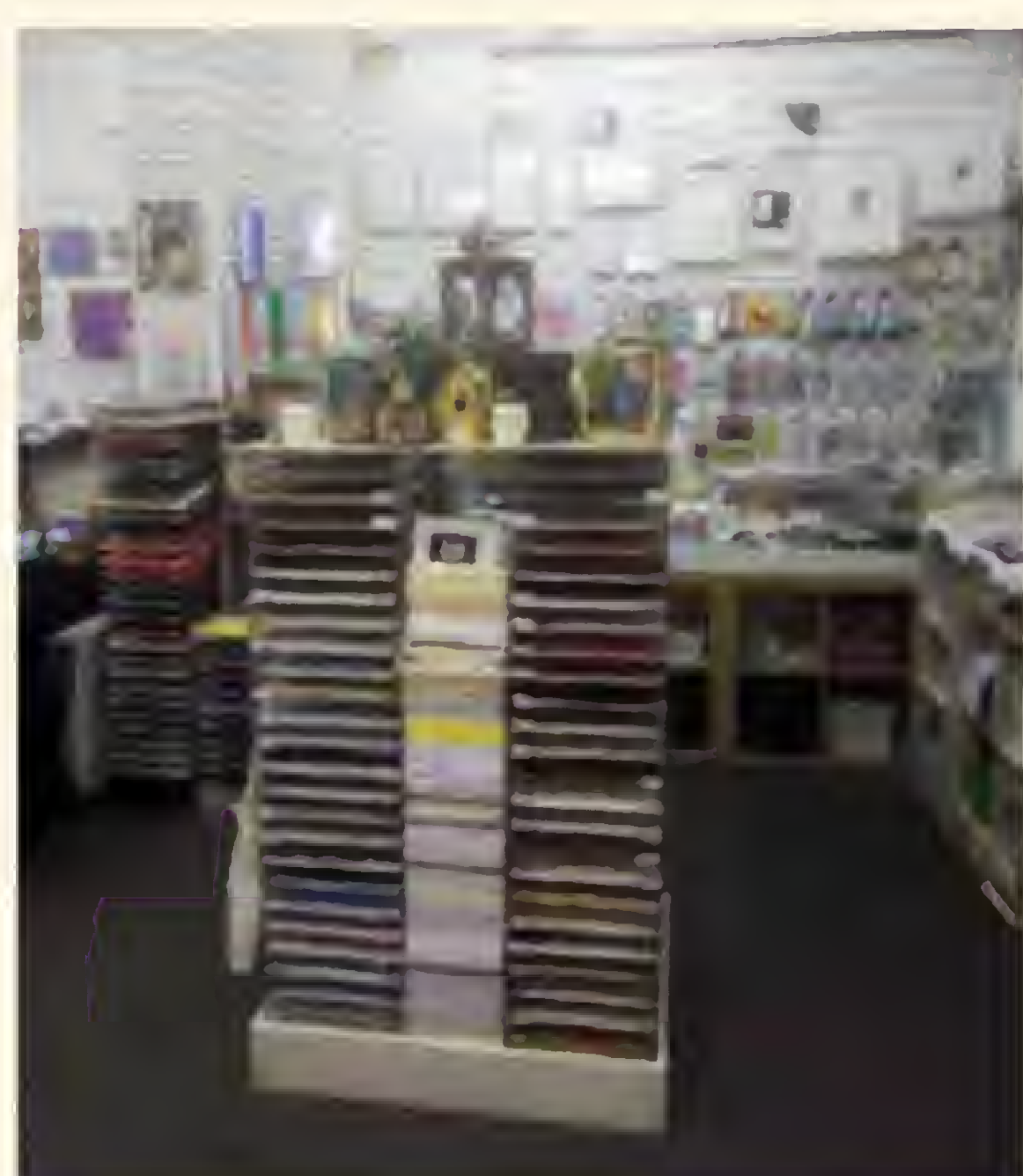
Bev Brown is celebrating eight wonderful years of Uniko! To mark this milestone occasion, a roaring 20s-inspired collection is being released, which is the perfect addition to any stash. It comes with gorgeous Art Deco repeated designs and a selection of sentiments perfect for birthdays and 20-inspired parties at any time of year.

Head to www.uniko.co.uk to see Bev's must-own creations

Katz & Co Craft

Katz and Co Craft is a family-run Derby-based business with 15 years of experience. The team prides themselves on their knowledge of all crafts and the friendly, fun experience they provide to anyone who visits, whether it's to shop or browse the artwork. For those of you who want to experiment and learn something new, why not take one of the many group or one-on-one workshops including arty cards, mixed media and paint pouring. Katz and Co Craft sells papercraft supplies from all your favourite brands as well as Kate's own ever-growing Colour Me collections.

If you would like to find out more about this delightful store, go to www.facebook.com/KatzCoCraft



Fruit & Flora

We are so excited about the new Fruit & Flora Collection by Graphic 45. Within the collection you will find stickers, toppers and papers that are classically bright with fresh patterns, which include apples, pears, butterflies and florals that we think would be perfect for any occasion to show that avid gardener you care.

Go to www.g45papers.com to see the full range from the Fruit & Flora Collection



Bags of fun

If you love a fashion accessory, Simply Made Crafts has the perfect collection of bag dies to suit any occasion or gender. We love the Cantilever Box die that includes tools, scissors and pins images to create the perfect card for a fellow crafter. Try coupling these dies with the new paper pack and adorn a briefcase with bright tulips or a doctor's bag with colourful geometric patterns.

Head to www.craftstash.co.uk for more Simply Made Crafts products

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Your cards

Here's a selection of stunning cards made by our lovely readers!

Free gift for each person whose card is featured!*

Don't be shy!

Send your crafty creations to: **Readers' Gallery**, Papercraft Essentials, Practical Publishing, Suite G2 Vitality House, 217 Wellington Road South, Stockport SK2 6NG

OR email natalie.martin@practicalpublishing.co.uk

Don't forget to include your name and address.

(*Prizes for UK entrants only.)



1



2



3



4

1. **Thank you** by **Valerie Davies** from Bracknell
2. **Pretty in pink** by **Pamela Chiswell** from Solihull
3. **Embossed shaker** by **Adrene Williams** from Ebbw Vale
4. **Congratulations** by **Hazel Bullock** from Powys

Don't forget – you can buy copies of *Papercraft Essentials* online from www.moremags.com



Chloes

CREATIVE
CARDS

BOX KIT ISSUE 6

new releases

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Parisian perfection

Take a trip to Paris with these delightful crafting essentials

We love the Paris-inspired creations by Emma Fuge on page 14. Here we have hand-picked some French-themed essentials to take you to the romance capital of the world



1. Craft Consortium Paris In Bloom découpage papers **£2.99** www.craftconsortium.com
2. Crafter's Companion Amour stamp **£4.99** www.crafterscompanion.co.uk
3. Bon Voyage & French Blue Graphic 45 rose bouquet **£6.99** www.craftstash.co.uk
4. Heidi Swapp Honey & Spice La Fleur paper **99p** www.heylittlemagpie.com
5. For the Love of Stamps From Paris with Love stamp set **£8** www.hunkydorycrafts.co.uk
6. French Ultramarine Ranger Archival Ink **£4.99** www.craftstash.co.uk
7. Sara Signature Collection Parisian charms pack **£4.99** www.beebaabcraftingsupplies.co.uk
8. Woodware Paris Elements stamp set **£4.99** www.craftyarts.co.uk
9. French Blue Craft Perfect A4 classic cardstock **£2.50** www.tonic-studios.co.uk

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Your letters

Here's just a few of our favourite cards and letters from the last month

Free gift for each person whose card is featured!*



★ ★ ★ Star letter

Shine like a star

I enjoy making my own flower embellishments to decorate the cards I make. When I received issue 185 and saw the star-fold card by Sam Clayton I immediately thought that this card would be a good one to display a floral embellishment. I think it makes a stunning card and I hope you agree. I do enjoy this feature by Sam each month because unusual shaped cards stand out from the rest and I do try to make my cards special. The step-by-step guide makes it so simple. I have also made a card using the Fresh Florals kit from issue 184. Thanks for this wonderful kit – I love everything about it and the sentiments are all so usable. Thank you *Papercraft Essentials* for the continued inspiration.

Betty Wakeham, Rugby

Lee says: We're glad you enjoyed the star-fold cards, Betty, and we love your version! We're big fans of Sam's inspiring ideas here at PE HQ too, and we hope you love what she's made for us this month over on page 18. Your Fresh Florals card is super, too!



Get in touch and you could win our prize – **£50** worth of fantastic crafty stash from Hunkydory!

Hunkydory
● CRAFTS ● LIMITED ●



Busy bee!

I have just spent the weekend locked in my craft room while outside it was cold, windy and raining. I have been inspired to make several cards using kits from issues 181, 183 and 184 and here are a few cards I have made. The foxy card using geometric stamps from issue 181 was inspired by a card in issue 183, page 62; then I have made several book-themed cards to add to my charity pile. Last but not means least, I loved the papers from issue 184 and know my mum will love the Mother's Day card as she loves her garden and flowers. Thanks to you all for the great kits.

Helen Anne Ward, York



Fresh florals

I just had to tell you how much I enjoyed the kit that came with issue 184. It's been a while since I have actually purchased a craft magazine, however the beautiful cover card caught my eye and when I realised it was made with the kit it was game over! I have not crafted for a few months due to recovering from major surgery, so this beautiful kit was just the thing to get my creativity flowing again. I thoroughly enjoyed creating this selection of pretty cards with the kit and the bonus is that there is still plenty left for further creations!

Lyndsey Turner, Wolverhampton



Flower power!

I want to thank you for the beautiful kit with issue 184 – I've really enjoyed getting creative with it. I really wish it was available to buy so that I can keep using it! I've abandoned everything apart from crafting today and hope you like what I've done. Please can we have more kits like this in the future?

Aruna Paul, by email

Missed out on any of the recent issues mentioned here? Don't forget you can buy past issues of *Papercraft Essentials* from www.moremags.com or www.craftstash.co.uk



Perfect pinwheel

I love the deep red mixed with the pink on the papers and toppers included with issue 184. I've mixed and matched the sentiments so that the little heart topper fits nicely onto the card too. I also watched a YouTube tutorial by one of your team, Sam Clayton, and like her decided to make a pinwheel card using the papers from the same issue. I could make use of several of the designs in one card as they go so beautifully together. I did add a few embellishments and inside I put one of the sentiments from the kit. Here's my take on the card.

Jayne Kennedy, Bristol



Charity makes

I'm currently making a collection of cards to donate to the charity shop in the hospital where I work. The cover items that I received with issue 184 will be perfect for me to use to make quick, beautiful cards, which hopefully will help to boost funds. Here is the first card I have made, I hope you like it.

Christine Howard, Sheffield

Get in touch!

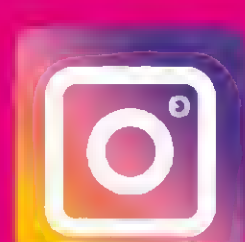
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Paris in the springtime



Emma Fuge

Emma Fuge showcases the gorgeous Parisian Beauty range of dies and stamps from Stampin' up! with her stylish set of cards



Life is a magnificent adventure

You'll need

- ▶ Mint Macaron cardstock
- ▶ watercolour cardstock
- ▶ Best Dressed patterned paper
- ▶ Parisian Beauty stamp set
- ▶ VersaMark inkpad
- ▶ Blackberry Bliss & Mint Macaron Stampin' Pads
- ▶ Purple Posy scalloped linen ribbon
- ▶ Gingham Gala self-adhesive sequins
- ▶ rhinestones
- ▶ Parisian Beauty & Rectangle Stitched dies
- ▶ white embossing powder
- ▶ Aqua Painter
- ▶ manual die-cutting machine
- ▶ heat tool

Step by step

1 Create a 5½x4¼" tent-fold card blank and cover with two panels of patterned paper as shown.

2 Cut two lengths of ribbon, wrap around the card and top with a ribbon bow.

3 Stamp an Eiffel Tower image onto watercolour cardstock using VersaMark ink, add white embossing powder, then heat and die-cut out. Add Mint Macaron ink with an Aqua Painter and colour the image.

4 Stamp a sentiment and die-cut out into a stitched

rectangle. Adhere the elements to the card front as shown, then add sequins and rhinestones.

Where to buy

The products used in this feature are available from www.stampinup.com/en-gb

Merci

You'll need

- ▶ Whisper White, Shimmery White, Copper Foil, Mossy Meadow, Blackberry Bliss & Crumb Cake cardstock
- ▶ Best Dressed patterned paper
- ▶ vellum
- ▶ Parisian Beauty, Pop of Petals & Painted Harvest stamp sets
- ▶ Purple Posy Marker, Highland Heather, Mossy Meadow & Petal Pink Stampin' Pads
- ▶ Petal Pink rhinestones
- ▶ Aqua Painter
- ▶ Parisian Beauty die
- ▶ Tufted 3D embossing folder
- ▶ Stampin' Spritzer
- ▶ Four-Petal Flower punch & leaf punches
- ▶ manual die-cutting machine

Step by step

1 Create a 6"-square card blank and cover with patterned paper. Cut two smaller panels, one from Crumb Cake cardstock and a slightly smaller one from Shimmery White.

2 Spritz the Shimmery White panel with a light mist of water and emboss with the Tufted folder.

3 Using an Aqua Painter brush and co-ordinating ink, tap a few drops on the background and leave to dry.

4 Cut a small strip of vellum, wrap around the layers and glue to the card front. Die-cut the Eiffel Tower from Copper Foil cardstock. Stamp the flower and leaves onto white cardstock and punch out.

5 Die-cut a sentiment and a flourish and affix all the elements to the card front as shown. Add rhinestones to finish.

Top Tip

Die-cut the main image from darker cardstock to make it really stand out

Follow your heart

You'll need

- ▶ Whisper White, Mossy Meadow, Blackberry Bliss & Crumb Cake cardstock
- ▶ vellum
- ▶ Best Dressed patterned paper
- ▶ Parisian Beauty & Artisan Textures stamp set
- ▶ Tuxedo Black Memento inkpad
- ▶ Pool Party, Daffodil Delight & Crumb Cake Stampin' Pads
- ▶ Crumb Cake alcohol marker
- ▶ braided linen trim
- ▶ Parisian Beauty & Stitched Shapes dies
- ▶ Script embossing folder
- ▶ manual die-cutting machine

Top Tip

Wrap the vellum around the layers to attach it to the card front without using glue at the front

Step by step

1 Create a 5½x4¼" tent-fold card blank from Mossy Meadow cardstock. Cover the front with two pieces of contrasting patterned paper, measuring slightly smaller than the entire card front.

2 Cut a piece of vellum slightly smaller again and emboss with the Script folder.

3 Affix the elements to the card front as shown, stamp a sentiment with Blackberry Bliss ink at the bottom and tie a piece of braided linen trim around the card into a bow.

4 Die-cut the Eiffel Tower silhouette from Crumb Cake cardstock to use for an easel, and a stitched square from Whisper White cardstock.

5 Stamp the images and background onto the stitched square to create a scene. Die-cut a sentiment from Blackberry Bliss cardstock, then adhere all the elements to the card front.

6 Use an alcohol marker to add an outline to the base of the easel to create a shadow.



Amour shaker card

You'll need

- ▶ Petal Pink, Silver Foil, Crumb Cake & Old Olive cardstock
- ▶ Best Dressed patterned paper
- ▶ acetate
- ▶ Parisian Beauty stamp set
- ▶ Parisian Beauty & Rectangle Stitched dies
- ▶ Whisper White Stampin' Pad
- ▶ iridescent sequin assortment
- ▶ Petal Pink rhinestones
- ▶ manual die-cutting machine
- ▶ 3D foam strips

Top Tip

Add the patterned paper to the card front panel first before die-cutting the aperture out

Step by step

1 Create a 5½x4¼" card blank and cut another piece of card the same size as the card front.

2 Add a slightly smaller piece of patterned paper to the

panel and die-cut a stitched rectangle from this piece to create an aperture for the acetate.

3 Glue a piece of acetate to the back of the panel, covering the aperture, then add 3D foam strips all the way around.

4 Lay the card blank flat and stamp several images onto it. Take a small scoop of loose sequins and place in a small pile in the entire of the card and carefully affix on top the panel you have created.

5 Die-cut the sentiment tower and flourish. Cut out some flowers from patterned paper and adhere all the elements to the card front as shown. Add rhinestones to finish.



Step by step

1 Create a 5"-square card blank and cover one side with a slim strip of patterned paper. Cut another panel for the other side from Shimmery White cardstock.

2 Add Crumb Cake ink to one side of the embossing folder, emboss this piece and adhere to the card front.

3 Die-cut a medium-sized stitched rectangle from Petal Pink cardstock, stamp several images and fix in place.

4 Tie a bow around the card using a braided linen trim. Die-cut the tower, flourish and sentiment and secure to the card front.

5 Stamp the fleur-de-lis with Mint Macaron ink onto Whisper White cardstock and die-cut out. Attach to the card front then add rhinestones to finish.

Tower topper

You'll need

- ▶ Petal Pink, Crumb Cake, Blackberry Bliss, Shimmery White & Whisper White cardstock
- ▶ Best Dressed patterned paper
- ▶ Parisian Beauty stamp set
- ▶ Whisper White, Mint Macaron & Crumb Cake Stampin' Pads
- ▶ Petal Pink rhinestones
- ▶ braided linen trim
- ▶ Parisian Beauty & Rectangle Stitched dies
- ▶ Script embossing folder
- ▶ manual die-cutting machine

Top Tip

Emboss white cardstock for a subtle and more elegant look to your design

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Fantastic folds



Sam Calcott

This issue Sam guides us through how to make stylish Z-fold card blanks



Thank you

You'll need

- ▶ white, purple & Peach cardstock
- ▶ First Edition Chasing Rainbows patterned paper
- ▶ sentiment stamp
- ▶ butterfly dies
- ▶ purple inepad
- ▶ embossing powder
- ▶ heat tool
- ▶ gemstones
- ▶ anti-static powder
- ▶ white Posca pen
- ▶ scoreboard
- ▶ manual die-cutting machine

Top Tip

Burnish all the score lines well so the card stands properly and lays flat in the envelope

Step by step

1 Cut a 25x18cm piece of purple cardstock, then score along the 25cm side at 6.25cm and 12.5cm. Fold the 6.25cm line into a mountain fold and the 12.5cm line into a valley fold, and burnish well.

2 Cut a 11.5x17cm piece of white cardstock and adhere to the main section. Cut a 10.5x16cm piece of patterned paper and secure to the white matt.

3 Cut two 5.5x17cm pieces of white cardstock and affix to the two smaller front sections.

4 Cut two 4.5x16cm pieces of patterned paper and secure over the white matts.

5 Cut a 8x13.5cm piece of white cardstock then stamp

and heat-emboss your sentiment. Attach to a 9x14.5cm piece of purple cardstock. Add glue to the left-hand side and stick onto the front half section as shown.

6 Use a paint pen to draw faux stitching around all of the purple frames. Add die-cut butterflies and gemstones to finish.



Step by step



1 Cut two 30x15cm pieces of white cardstock. Score each piece along the 30cm side at 7.5cm and 15cm, then make a pencil mark at 22.5cm.



2 Add glue on one of the sections with the pencil mark, flip the other piece and adhere over the top, forming a double Z-fold card.



3 Fold the two outer score lines into mountain folds and burnish well.



4 Cut four 7x14.5cm pieces of patterned paper and adhere to the inner side sections.



5 Cut four 2.5x30cm pieces of white cardstock for the Z-fold strips and score each piece along the 30cm side at 15cm and 22.5cm.

Check you can fold the card flat before you stick each of the Z-fold panels down, trimming away any cardstock if needed

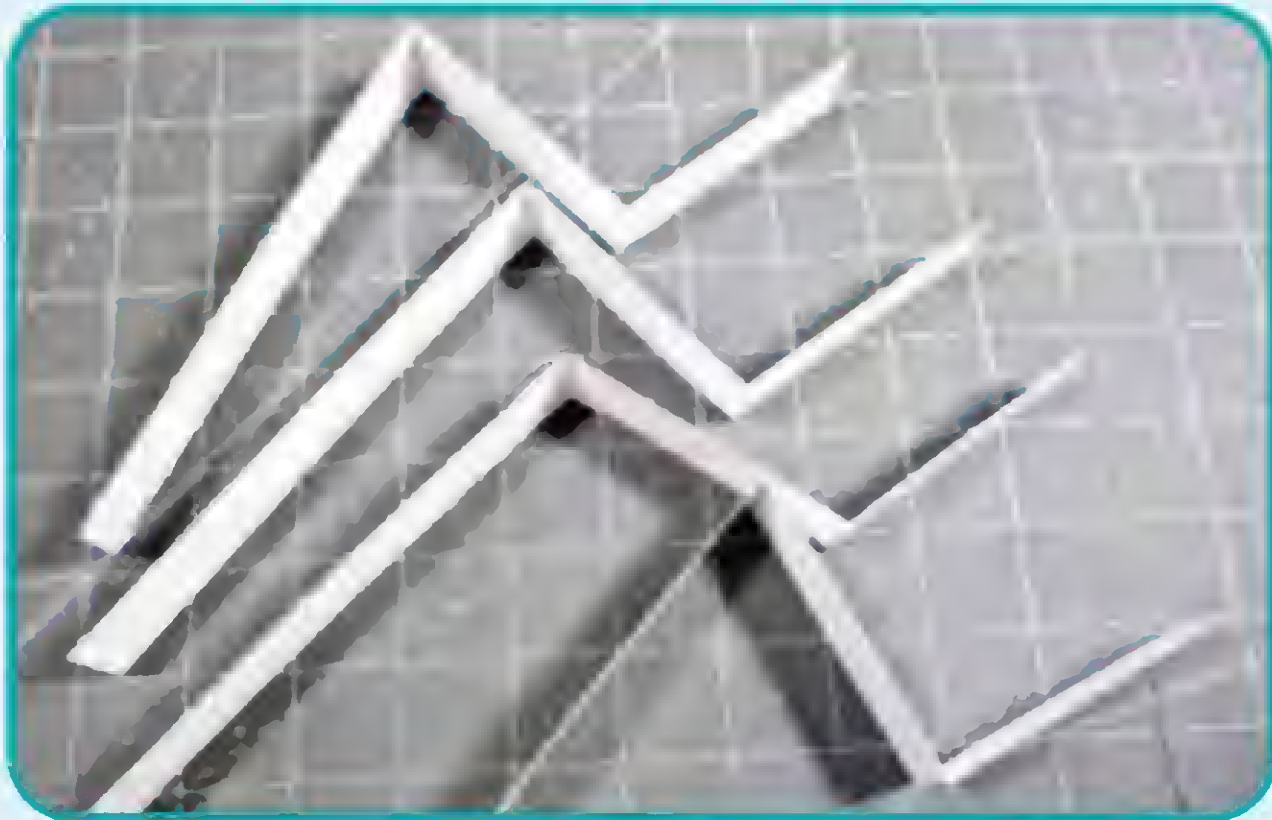
Advanced
Z-fold card



Happy birthday

You'll need

- ▶ white, pink & purple cardstock
- ▶ First Edition Chasing Rainbows patterned paper
- ▶ purple inkpad
- ▶ embossing powder
- ▶ anti-static powder
- ▶ white Posca pen
- ▶ purple ribbon
- ▶ Morning Dew & Autumn Red Tonic Studios Nuvo Crystal Drops
- ▶ gemstones
- ▶ twine or string
- ▶ hot-glue gun
- ▶ scoreboard
- ▶ heat tool
- ▶ manual die-cutting machine



6 Fold and burnish each piece as shown.



7 Fix all these pieces in place.



8 Cut three 7x9.5cm pieces of patterned paper and stick to the three blank sections. Cut a further four 14.5x2cm pieces and six 7x2cm pieces of patterned paper and adhere to the four Z-fold strips.



9 Decorate and embellish as desired.

Elegant emporium



Penny Gill-Crips

Penny has created cards for all occasions using Craft Consortium's lovely new range, The Emporium

Birthday wishes

You'll need

- ▶ white A6 card blank
- ▶ white & Mustard cardstock
- ▶ Craft Consortium The Emporium 12x12" paper pad
- ▶ hexagonal nesting dies
- ▶ Scattered Straw Ranger Tim Holtz Distress Oxide Ink
- ▶ blending tool
- ▶ daisy punch
- ▶ gold adhesive pearls
- ▶ sentiment stamp
- ▶ black inkpad
- ▶ small length of black cotton/twine
- ▶ manual die-cutting machine
- ▶ 3D foam pads

Top Tip

You can use all your scraps of cardstock and paper to make a card like this, when using smaller dies and punches

Step by step

- 1** Cut a piece of white cardstock slightly smaller than the card front and blend Scattered Straw Distress Oxide Ink lightly around the edges.
- 2** Die-cut a small hexagon at the top of this piece to make an aperture then affix it to the card front. Blend a little Scattered Straw Distress Oxide Ink through the aperture.
- 3** Stamp a sentiment onto the card front, through the aperture.
- 4** Die-cut more small hexagons from patterned paper and Mustard cardstock. Arrange on the card front as shown, using 3D foam pads for some to create depth.



Where to buy

Craft Consortium's The Emporium range is available from www.craftstash.co.uk

- 5** Cut out a bee from the topper sheet and fix to the card front, on top of a circle of black cotton.

- 6** Punch a daisy from white cardstock. Add a little Scattered Straw Distress Oxide Ink to the

edges and a gold pearl to the centre. Secure to the card front, along with a few more pearls.

Just for you

You'll need

- ▶ white 5"-square card blank
- ▶ sage green, pale green, black & white cardstock
- ▶ Craft Consortium The Emporium 12x12" paper pad
- ▶ circle dies
- ▶ gemstones
- ▶ Espresso Truffle Memento inkpad
- ▶ Sea Breeze VersaMagic chalk inkpad
- ▶ ink-blending tool
- ▶ manual die-cutting machine
- ▶ 3D foam pads

matte onto black cardstock and fix to the card front.

3 Die-cut a circle of pale green cardstock, stamp a sentiment and fix to the card front as shown.

4 Cut out several of the flowers and leaves from the paper pad and arrange them around the edge of the circle, using 3D foam pads for some.

5 Cut out a moth and attach using 3D foam pads. Stamp another sentiment in the bottom-right corner and add gems to finish.

Step by step

1 Cut a piece of white cardstock slightly smaller than the card blank and blend Sea Breeze ink lightly around the edges.

2 Fix a 2"-wide piece of sage green cardstock to the right-hand side of the panel,

Top Tip

Black ink is sometimes a little stark on a pale background, so why not try a dark grey or brown?



You'll need

- ▶ white 5x7" card blank
- ▶ white, sage green & light grey cardstock
- ▶ Craft Consortium The Emporium 12x12" paper pad & wood shapes
- ▶ leafy flourish & small oval dies
- ▶ small sentiment stamp
- ▶ black inkpad
- ▶ 3D foam pads
- ▶ manual die-cutting machine

Step by step

1 Cover the card front with sage green cardstock and patterned paper, leaving narrow borders.

2 Tear a piece of light grey cardstock to cover the lower half of the card front and fix in place.

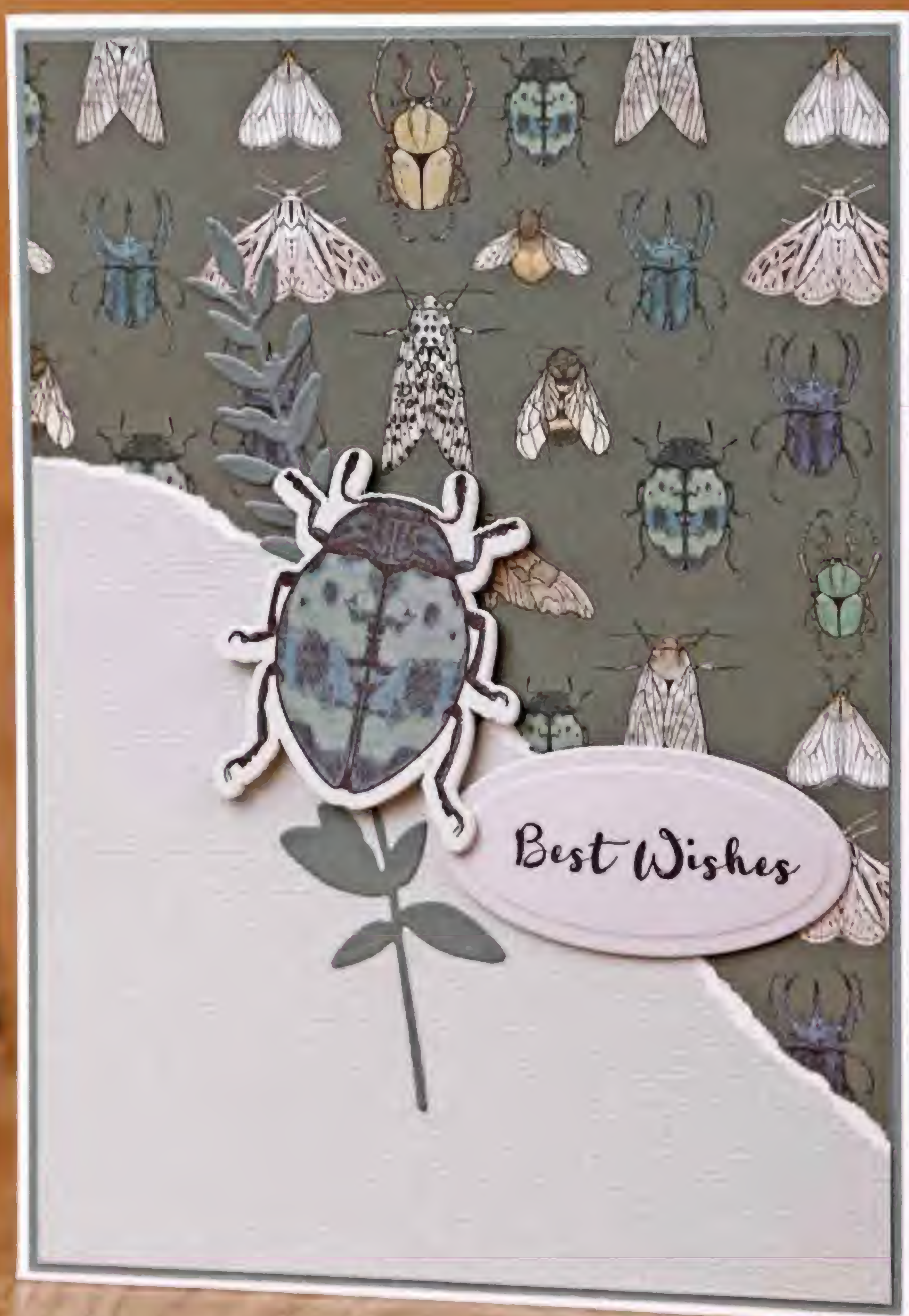
3 Stamp a sentiment onto a small oval die-cut from white cardstock and attach using 3D foam pads.

4 Die-cut a leafy flourish from the sage green cardstock and secure to the card front. Add a wooden beetle using 3D foam pads to finish.

Top Tip

Using twine, cotton, lace, ribbon, buttons, metal charms or wooden shapes will add dimension and texture to your cards

Best wishes



Happy birthday

You'll need

- ▶ white A6 tent-fold card blank
- ▶ Craft Consortium The Emporium 12x12" paper pad & Botany stamp set
- ▶ white, violet & yellow cardstock
- ▶ oval nesting dies
- ▶ alcohol markers
- ▶ Sweet Pansy VersaMagic chalk inepad
- ▶ sentiment stamp
- ▶ ink-blending tool
- ▶ Espresso Memento inepad
- ▶ manual die-cutting machine
- ▶ 3D foam pads

Step by step

1 Die-cut a small oval from white cardstock. Before removing it from the die, blend Sweet Pansy chalk ink around the edges.

2 Stamp the orchid in the centre of the oval using Espresso ink and colour in using alcohol markers.

3 Cut a piece of white cardstock slightly smaller than the card

front and stamp your sentiment in the bottom-right corner.

4 Cut 1" strips of yellow and violet cardstock and attach

them just above the sentiment as a border.

5 Use a 3"-wide piece of patterned paper to cover

the top of the card as shown, then attach the stamped oval using 3D foam pads to finish.



If you don't have chalk ink in your stash, improvise and use Distress Ink – this will help to achieve this 'soft focus' edge



The best things in life aren't things

You'll need

- ▶ white A6 card blank
- ▶ white, Plum & lilac cardstock
- ▶ Craft Consortium The Emporium Botany stamp set
- ▶ Espresso Memento inepad
- ▶ alcohol markers
- ▶ sentiment stamp

Step by step

1 Stamp the wild orchid and a sentiment onto white cardstock using Espresso ink. Colour in the orchid using alcohol markers.

2 Cover the card front with Plum and lilac cardstock, leaving narrow borders, then add the stamped panel.

3 Use green ink to add a few strokes under the orchid to ground it.



When creating simple designs like this, matt your image panel onto several colours of cardstock for added impact



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Pretty in pink



Nicky shows us what can be done using your stash of dies and cardstock



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Happy birthday

You'll need

- ▶ white 14.5cm-square card blank
- ▶ white, pink, cerise & red cardstock
- ▶ Creative Wavy Lines & Circle and Wavy Lines & Flower die sets
- ▶ Bright Rosa Birthday Words die set
- ▶ manual die-cutting machine
- ▶ 3D foam pads

Step by step

1 Die-cut the wavy lines twice from white, pink and cerise cardstock, then adhere

one of each colour across a 13cm square of red cardstock, spacing the strips equally. Add the second strip of each colour under the first, overlapping the next so that they appear to blend. Trim to fit the square panel.

2 Die-cut the large flower wavy panel twice from white cardstock then snip three flowers from the die-cut. Adhere to pink cardstock and trim around each one. Add cerise circles cut using the die, then affix to the panel as shown.

3 Layer the panel onto cerise cardstock and trim a narrow border. Affix to the card front.

4 Attach a white die-cut sentiment to its layering panel and secure to the card front using 3D foam pads to finish.

Top Tip

When cutting out shapes around die-cuts, such as the flowers, angle the scissors so the bottom blade is underneath the shape, for a neat and close finish



Where to buy

Creative Wavy Lines dies are available from
www.craftstash.co.uk



Birthday wishes

You'll need

- ▶ white, pink, cerise & red cardstock
- ▶ Creative Wavy Lines & Hexagon die set
- ▶ Bright Rosa Birthday Words die set
- ▶ hexagon nesting dies
- ▶ manual die-cutting machine
- ▶ 3D foam pads

Step by step

1 Create a card blank by die-cutting two large hexagons from white cardstock. Score at 2cm from the top of one, add adhesive above the scored line then attach to the other to create a hinged card blank.

2 Use the next-smallest die to create a pink base layer.

3 Die-cut wavy hexagon panels from white cardstock and adhere across the pink hexagon.

Trim away any excess but leave any useful hexagon outlines overhanging at the top and bottom.

4 Use the different-sized hexagons from the panel dies to create shapes to fit within the apertures, reducing in size, and layering using 3D foam pads.

5 Affix die-cut sentiments to their backing panels and use 3D foam pads to attach across the card front to finish.

Top Tip

If you don't have a hexagon die set, you can create

hexagon templates easily on a computer and cut assorted sizes for matting and layering

Good friends

You'll need

- ▶ white 14.5cm-square card blank
- ▶ white, pink, fuchsia & cerise cardstock
- ▶ Penny Black Happy Wishes stamp set
- ▶ Rhubarb Stalk Memento inkpad
- ▶ Creative Wavy Lines & Flower die set
- ▶ oval nesting dies
- ▶ manual die-cutting machine
- ▶ 3D foam pads

Step by step

1 With the fold of the card at the top, affix two red die-cut flower panels down each side of the card front. Cut up the outside of each one to create a shaped card.

2 Die-cut the same panels from different shades of cardstock and paper-piece the petals back in.

3 Stamp the sentiment on white cardstock using co-ordinating ink then die-cut into an oval. Layer onto a larger oval using 3D foam pads and affix to the card front.



Top Tip

Use a stamping platform when stamping sentiments to ensure a strong, clear impression, as you can stamp repeatedly in the same place

You'll need

- ▶ white 14cm-square card blank
- ▶ white, pink, cerise & red cardstock
- ▶ Creative Wavy Lines & Hexagon die set
- ▶ Gemini Expressions Celebrate die set
- ▶ manual die-cutting machine
- ▶ 3D foam pads

Step by step

1 Trim cerise cardstock to 14cm square then die-cut the four-star wave across the top, so that it sits over the edge.

2 Die-cut the same panel from pink cardstock. Secure the large cerise panel to the card blank, then adhere the die-cut in position at the top.

3 Cut the same panel from white cardstock and affix the white stars over any apertures, which are over the edge.

4 Adhere two pink three-star waves across the bottom of the card front in opposite directions.

5 Use the waste stars plus extra stars cut from white and coloured cardstock to fill the spaces as shown.

6 Add a layered die-cut sentiment in the centre to finish.



Celebrate

Top
Tip

To keep the back of the card front clean, be sure to not add adhesive to any of the protruding elements



Thank you

You'll need

- ▶ white 14.5cm-square card blank
- ▶ white, pink & cerise cardstock
- ▶ Creative Wavy Lines & Circle die set
- ▶ Sizzix Thinlits Phrases, Thank You & Flamingo die set
- ▶ circle nesting dies
- ▶ manual die-cutting machine
- ▶ 3D foam pads

Step by step

1 Die-cut three strips of white cardstock and adhere across the card front for a faux-embossed look.

2 Cut three identical white strips and adhere one to pink cardstock. Cut around the shape then position it down the right-hand side of the card front and draw down it using a pencil.

3 Cut along the line then add the pink and white panel. Add two further layers of white cardstock for a stacked die-cut effect. Add three cerise die-cut circles down the panel.

4 Die-cut three different-coloured circles and affix a die-cut sentiment over the smallest one. Use 3D foam pads to matt and layer, then affix to the card front.

5 Cover the inside of the card with cerise cardstock and add a pink wavy circle strip down the outer edge to finish.

Top
Tip

These large dies are great for easy faux embossing, adding interest to the background without detracting from the focal elements

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There are two stamp and die sets – the first, Swan Soiree, is a gorgeous pair of swans on a pond with their cygnets, along with sentiments perfect for Mother's Day and more. The set also has a variety of detail stamps such as a moon and stars, and bulrushes. The second stamp set is the Dandy Day set featuring super-cute mice and dandelions with sentiments perfect for all-occasion makes.

There is also a selection of die sets perfect for setting the scene in a meadow, a Magic Iris die to add movement to your projects and an adorable lift-flap set to create those all-important hidden details.

For those of you who love journaling, there are two mini notebooks for planning your next makes, as well as an adorable Dandy Mouse enamel pin badge and a tote bag to carry all your crafting gear in.



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BEGINNER'S GUIDE



WATERCOLOUR STAMPING

Sarah shows us how to create stylish cards using the impressive watercolour stamping technique



I love the look of watercolour painting but don't have the skills to create my own artwork. However, it's easy to create watercolour effects with your stamps, and here I explore watercolour stamping with a range of inks, papers and techniques. The first choice is whether to use watercolour or regular stamping cardstock. I have tried both here and they both worked. However, the ink travels further when wet on the watercolour card. The stamping card is designed to 'grab' the colour so won't give as

much of a soft and blurry finish, which can be perfect if you want to retain some definition to the finished image and more control over the process. The wet-on-wet technique works better on watercolour cardstock – this is where you spritz both the cardstock and the inked stamp with water so that both surfaces are wet when stamping.

All of the water-reactive inks that I used worked really well – the main difference was how to apply them to the stamp. The watercolour markers give the most precise application and can be used to colour the stamp image, whereas the inkpads provide a looser application of colour. You can control the amount of water that you use. It is fun to try spritzing the stamp only, the card only or both, and watching the different effects.

You'll need

◆ white 14.5cm-square card blanks ◆ white A6 card blanks ◆ white, black, purple & dark grey cardstock ◆ white watercolour cardstock ◆ pink glitter card ◆ Funky Fossil Designs Distressed Diamonds stencil ◆ Funky Fossil Designs Beautiful Inside and Out & Plant a Garden stamp sets ◆ Peeled Paint, Shaded Lilac, Milled Lavender, Tumbled Glass, Dusty Concord & Mermaid Lagoon Ranger Tim Holtz Distress Oxide Ink ◆ Creative Stamps Hugs stamp set ◆ Creative Dies Nesting Hexagon die set ◆ Crafter's Companion Spectrum Noir Aqua markers ◆ Onyx Black VersaFine inkpad ◆ clear

& Rose Gold WOW! embossing powder ◆ Paperartsy Hot Pick stamp set ◆ VersaMark inkpad ◆ Tropical Forest & Shades of Purple Altenew Mini Ink Cube sets ◆ Purple Haze & Serenity Blue Tonic Studios Nuvo embossing powders ◆ Altenew Label Love & Sentiment Strips stamp sets ◆ Paper Smooches Lovely Thoughts stamp set ◆ Concord & 9th Hello Lovely stamp set ◆ True White Cosmic Shimmer detail embossing powder ◆ Tonic Studios Essentials Nesting Circles die set ◆ gold paint ◆ heat tool ◆ circle dies ◆ manual die-cutting machine ◆ corner-rounder punch ◆ waterbrush



Top Tip

Watercolour pens are great for adding specific colours to parts of a stamped image

Hugs

Step by step

- 1 Colour the floral stamp with Aqua markers and spritz with water before stamping onto white cardstock. If the image doesn't bleed as much as you would like, spritz the stamp with water again or lightly spritz the cardstock directly.
- 2 Once dry, stamp the sentiment in black ink and clear heat-emboss. Die-cut the watercoloured image into a hexagon shape.
- 3 Cut a square of white cardstock slightly smaller than the card blank and ink through the stencil lightly in blue and purple. Fade out towards the edges of the panel.
- 4 Add some splatters to the panel using watered-down blue ink.
- 5 Matt both the hexagon and the square card panel onto dark grey cardstock and adhere to the card front.

Hello lovely

Step by step

- 1 Ink up the large floral stamp with different shades of purple and green. Spritz the stamp and place it on the watercolour cardstock. Repeat until you're happy with the variation of colour and the watercolour effect.
- 2 Stamp over the main flower with the solid stamp and move the ink with a waterbrush.
- 3 When dry, go back over the main flower with the outline image in a darker purple. Add splatters with the same colours and gold paint.
- 4 Stamp and heat-emboss the sentiment with Rose Gold embossing powder on a separate piece of cardstock and cut out.
- 5 White heat-emboss the rest of the sentiment on black



cardstock and cut it out. Adhere both parts of the sentiment as shown.

- 6 Trim the watercoloured cardstock panel down so that

it is slightly shorter than the A6 card front. Attach some glitter card to the edge of the card front and add the stamped card. Round the bottom-right corner.

Top Tip

Small inkpads make it much easier to add different colours to a large image



Top Tip Watercolour stamping is very forgiving as it softens the line art

Thanks for everything

Step by step

1 Cut a square of watercolour cardstock and spritz with water. Colour the lavender image with Aqua markers and spritz that before stamping. Repeat-stamp the lavender around a circle to create a wreath effect.

2 Add small pale blue flowers and splatters to the card panel.

3 White heat-emboss the sentiment onto a strip of black cardstock.

4 Matt the watercoloured panel onto purple cardstock and adhere to the card front.

How to... master watercolour stamping



1 Select the watercolour markers to use with the image. I have drawn a circle here as a guide for the wreath.



2 Colour the image in with the watercolour markers and spritz with water. A few light sprays should be enough.



3 Stamp the image. It can be onto dry or damp cardstock. The ink will move more if the wet stamp is applied to a damp surface.

Step by step

- 1** Spritz the watercolour cardstock lightly with water and stamp the floral image several times around the corner of the card panel. You can add a bit more water and/or move the ink around with a waterbrush to create extra movement.
- 2** Add some splatters in the same colour and set aside to dry.
- 3** White heat-emboss the sentiment on a piece of black cardstock and die-cut into a circle.
- 4** Once the watercoloured image is dry, stamp over it again with black ink and clear heat-emboss. This gives the image definition.
- 5** Matt the watercoloured image onto black cardstock and adhere to the card front, along with the sentiment.

Top Tip Slightly offset the stamped line art to emphasise the loose watercolour effect



Birthday wishes



Celebrate

Top Tip Adding splatters to watercolour-effect designs is easy to do and enhances the 'artsy' look

Step by step

- 1** Ink up the large butterfly background stamp using the purple and blue Distress Ink, then spritz with water and stamp down the centre of a panel of white watercolour cardstock. Repeat on either side of the first strip to create a watercolour background. Add splatters in matching colours to enhance the 'messy' watercolour effect.
- 2** Stamp and heat-emboss the focal point butterflies from the stamp set on a separate piece of white cardstock using the coloured Nuvo powders, then cut out.
- 3** Stamp the sentiment in black ink onto a separate piece of cardstock and cut out.
- 4** Trim the watercolour background so that it is slightly narrower than the front of an A6 card blank.
- 5** Use a spare piece of white cardstock to create the border, blending the three colours of Distress Ink to match the card front. Adhere the inked panel down the side of the card before adhering the watercoloured cardstock.
- 6** Affix the two embossed butterflies then attach the sentiment.



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Catch up with...

Sara Davies

We catch up with Sara Davies from Crafter's Companion as she updates us on the latest gossip and shares this month's top product picks

Hello! I'm so happy to be back to share some more of the behind-the-scenes fun we've been having here at Crafter's Companion! I was back over the pond at the HSN studios last month, launching some fabulous new products! I had lots of fun with the hosts over at the channel, and we even sported matching purple for the occasion, which makes me very happy indeed!

Once I was back in the North East, I took some time out to go to the theatre with my mam, sister and some friends. We saw Mamma Mia, which was amazing and our throats were hoarse afterwards from all the singing – it was a fab night!

We're all still having great fun hosting our Crafter's TV channel here at Crafter's Companion, and I was thrilled to join forces with Carol from Sugar and Crumbs with Nifty Nozzles to bring you some inspirational cake demos. I adore baking, and actually took part in a cake-decorating class a few years back where we made the most amazing cake bouquets! I learned so much from Carol and it definitely got me in the mood for some more creativity with icing.

Have you been catching our shows on Crafter's TV? I'd love it if you could get in touch on our Facebook page and let me know what you're enjoying about the shows and what you would love to see more of!

That's all for now, until next time... happy crafting!

Sara



I had such a great time showing off our exciting new releases over the pond!



Sara's top picks!

Gemini Layered Engraving dies

These new outline-style dies are fantastic for creating your own dramatic focal elements! Designed with versatility in mind, they can be coloured with your favourite medium or backed with acetate to create a stunning stained-glass window effect. They're also great for layering, mosaic effects and apertures, and can be used for cards as well as gifts and home décor projects, too! I adore the butterfly and bird designs in particular – they would make beautiful framed artwork for your home when backed with fabric, or you could even create your own beautiful lanterns with battery-operated tealights! There's so much to love about this collection – I can't wait to see what people create!



Gemini Gatefold Card stamps & dies

Mixing up your cardmaking with different-shaped cards is always a great way of breathing new life into your crafting, and these Gatefold Card dies will make this easier than ever! Designed to create an interlocking sentiment on the front of a gatefold card blank, each stamp and die set includes a large word die and a selection of stamps to create a full sentiment. There are also helpful instructions to help you recreate this fun look. Once you've got the hang of the gatefold concept, you can also use these sets to create wraps for cards and gifts, and experiment with different looks by mixing and matching the designs.

Gemini Lace Edge'able dies

The Edge'able range of dies is so popular with crafters, and Crafter's Companion has given this idea a stunning twist with a collection of new designs that will give your cards and papercraft projects delicate lace-effect detail. There are six different designs to choose from, including Butterfly Lace, Venetian Scrolls and Edwardian Rose, all perfect for achieving that stunning laser-effect finish. I can see these being the perfect finishing touch for wedding stationery and feminine birthday cards, but they'll also lend themselves to a range of different styles and occasions, making them a really versatile addition to your craft stash!



Floral pop-up box

You'll need

- ▶ white & pale green cardstock
- ▶ textured cardstock
- ▶ Gemini Pop Up Box Card die
- ▶ Gemini Floral Boutique stamps & dies
- ▶ Gemini Ornate Bow die
- ▶ 8x8" Pop Up Box paper pad
- ▶ acetate
- ▶ Just Pearls pen
- ▶ Spectrum Noir alcohol markers
- ▶ manual die-cutting machine

Top Tip

As this is a 3D card, why not make a gift box to house it and decorate it with stamped and die-cut flowers and an ornate bow?



Step by step



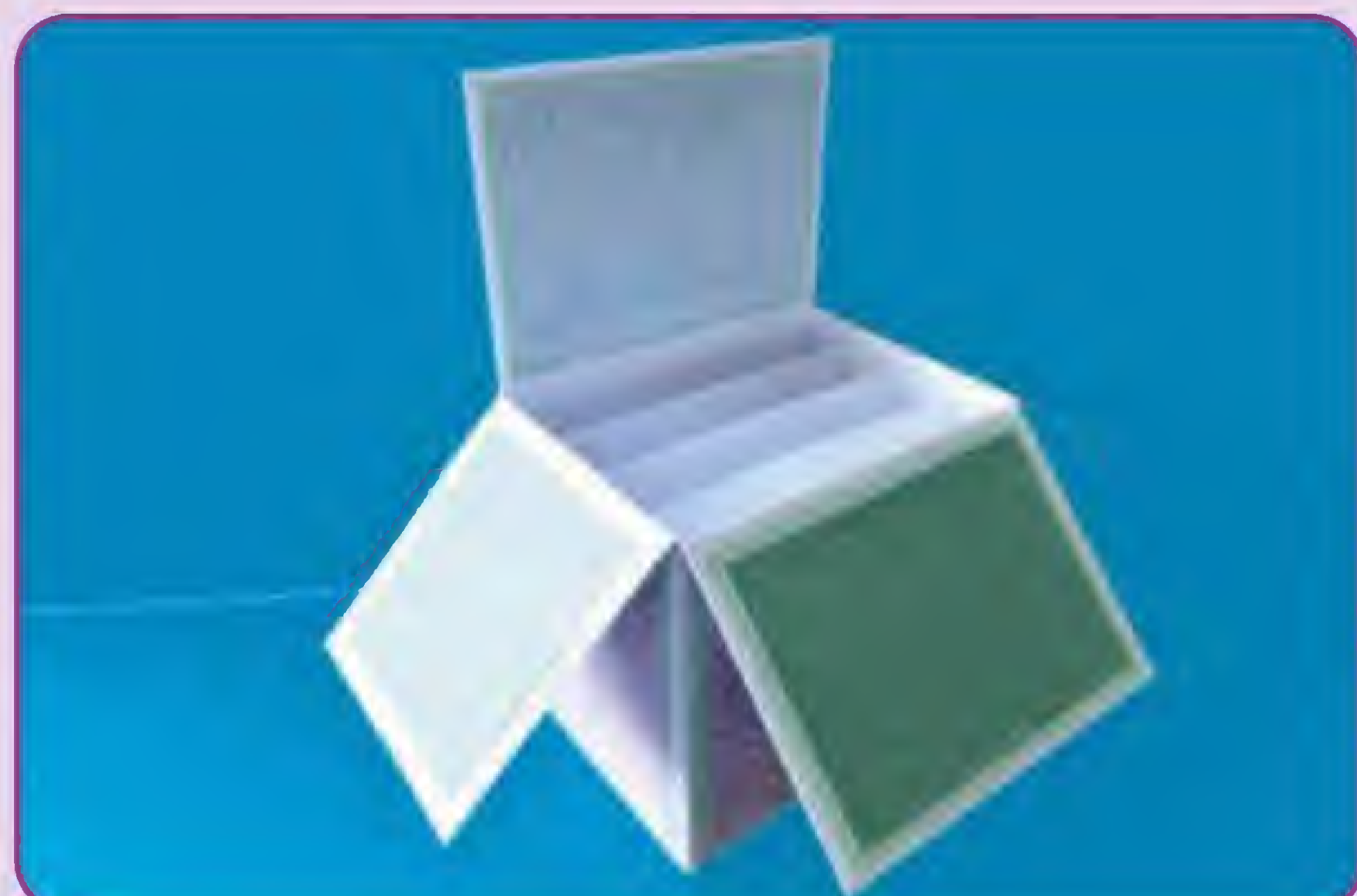
1 Die-cut two of the card bases from white cardstock. The dies are designed with no bottom cutting edge so you can alter the height of your finished box card. The height of this pop-up box card base was 7", top to bottom. Also cut three inner panels from white cardstock for the middle of your card.



2 Adhere the two card base pieces together by adding red line tape along the tab. Secure the inner panels to the scored guide lines as shown.



3 Cut panels for the sides and flaps of your boxes from patterned paper, then mount these onto slightly larger mats of pale green cardstock.



4 Adhere all the decorative panels, then assemble your box by attaching your inner panels and tab in place to complete the box card mechanism.



5 Stamp and die-cut your Floral Boutique flowers and colour in using alcohol markers. Affix your elements to the inner panels of the box and add some to strips of acetate to add dimension. Use a Just Pearl pen to add centres to the flowers.



6 Die-cut the Ornate Box from co-ordinating cardstock and assemble. Add this to the front of the box card on top of one of the die-cut label panels. Add further stamped and die-cut elements to the side flaps of your card to finish.

Fab Freebies

Over **£475** worth of prizes to be won!

We're literally giving stuff away!

Try your luck and you could win some fabulous crafty goodies in our giveaways



Crafter's Companion Lily Collection

Worth £99

Crafter's Companion is celebrating nature with this lily-inspired collection, which one of you will win! It comes with a selection of sentiment stamps for all occasions, flower-forming foam in three colours, butterfly dies, a lace panel die, an intricate frame and corner die set, as well as a duo of sentiment dies and two stamp sets featuring a classic lily and a calla lily, plus a stunning bloom-filled embossing folder.

See more from Crafter's Companion by visiting www.crafterscompanion.co.uk

1 to give away



A Compass Cutter & cutting mat

4 to give away

Worth £30.25 each

Our friends at Groves are giving you the chance to win a Compass Cutter and cutting mat. The mat has both metric and imperial measurements and grid marking, as well as a self-healing mechanism. There is also a Compass Cutter, which allows you to cut through paper, leather, rubber and vinyl – just unscrew, position and cut to your desired radius.

For more information contact groves@stockistenquiries.co.uk

Paper Nest Dolls stamps

Worth £16 each

For those of you who love adding a dose of cute into your makes, this Paper Nest Dolls prize package is the one for you! Five of you will win this pair of stamps of the Ladybug Girl and Lulu Bee – both images are perfect for any children's cards or party decorations.

Visit www.papernestdolls.com for more from the Paper Nest Dolls team



5 to give away

STAMPERAMA

Stamperama tickets

Worth £6 each

We can't believe the craft show season is upon us once again, and this time we've got 14 pairs of tickets to the June Stamperama in Worthing! Taking place on 13th June, visitors can expect a make-and-take workshop with Hobby Art, as well as stalls from Stamp Addicts, Stampers Grove and Dolly Dimples. The show starts at 10am and has plenty of free parking around the Charmandean Centre.

Go to www.stamperama.com for more information

14 pairs to give away



Trimcraft's glitter cardstock bundle

Worth £48 each

Stocking up your cardstock stash has never been easier for two lucky readers with this prize package from Trimcraft! This A4 double-sided glitter cardstock bundle houses a huge array of colours, ranging from rainbow brights to soft pastels. There's also a selection of bright hues and classic monochrome tones perfect for any occasion in your crafting calendar.

Get inspired at www.thecraftblog.com

2 to give away

For your chance to win one of these prize bundles, head to www.papercraftmagazines.com and go to the Competitions section by **14th May 2020**

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- ♦ ICHF Shows (Birmingham, Exeter, Glasgow, Manchester) ♦ Happy Stampers Festival (Port Sunlight) ♦ Stamperama Shows (Stevenage, Harrogate, Worthing, Newbury) ♦ Sincerely Yours Shows (Leigh, Thetford, Newark) ♦ Doncaster (Crafting Live, Stamp Magic) ♦ Papercraft and Stamping Show (The National Motorcycle Museum, Solihull) ♦ Create It Shows (Farnborough and Kent)

enquiries@stampersgrove.co.uk Tel: 01835 870419

www.stampersgrove.co.uk



Thanks a million

These cute makes using the latest Lawn Fawn stamps and dies are simply adorable!



A very big thanks

You'll need

- ▶ Solar White Neenah cardstock
- ▶ Pencil Eraser, Narwhal & Sage Lawn Fawn cardstock
- ▶ watercolour paper
- ▶ Lawn Fawn Big Thanks stamp set & Lawn Cuts dies
- ▶ Lawn Fawn Four Square Backdrop Landscape, Grassy Border & Simple Stitched Hillides Lawn Cuts dies
- ▶ River Rock Lawn Fawn inkpad
- ▶ Onyx Black VersaFine Clair inkpad
- ▶ Stormy Sky, Broken China, Scattered Straw & Victorian Velvet Ranger Tim Holtz Distress Oxide Ink
- ▶ Copic markers
- ▶ white gel pen
- ▶ 3D foam pads
- ▶ manual die-cutting machine

Step by step

1 Create a card blank. Die-cut the Four Square Backdrop Landscape from Narwhal

cardstock and watercolour paper. Fix the frame to the card front.

2 Blend the inside rectangles of watercolour paper with various colours of ink to create different skies.

3 Die-cut hills and grassy borders for each inside panel and adhere to the bottom. Attach the panels inside the frame.

4 Stamp and colour the images, then cut out with the co-ordinating dies.

5 Stamp a sentiment onto the bottom-right panel. Secure the images to the card front using 3D foam pads, then add detail using a white gel pen.

Top Tip

Break up the card into multiple panels for smaller scenes and a fun new look

Thank you so very much



Top Tip

For a softer look, use coloured ink instead of black to stamp out your images

You'll need

- ▶ Sage Lawn Fawn cardstock
- ▶ Solar White Neenah cardstock
- ▶ Lawn Fawn Big Thanks stamp set & Lawn Cuts dies
- ▶ Lawn Fawn Small Stitched Circle Stackables & Scalloped Circle Stackables Lawn Cuts dies
- ▶ River Rock Lawn Fawn inkpad
- ▶ Victorian Velvet & Scattered Straw Ranger Tim Holtz Distress Oxide Ink
- ▶ watercolour paper
- ▶ Onyx Black VersaFine Clair inkpad
- ▶ Copic markers
- ▶ white & pink gel pens
- ▶ 3D foam pads
- ▶ manual die-cutting machine

Step by step

1 Create a scalloped circle card blank from Sage cardstock.

2 Die-cut a stitched circle from watercolour paper, blend yellow and pink inks onto it then adhere to the card front.

3 Stamp and colour the images, then cut out with the co-ordinating dies.

4 Stamp a sentiment along the bottom of the circle, then affix the images above using 3D foam pads.

You'll need

- ▶ white 10.5x15cm card blank
- ▶ Chocolate Bar & Pencil Eraser Lawn Fawn cardstock
- ▶ Solar White Neenah cardstock
- ▶ Lawn Fawn Big Thanks stamp set & Lawn Cuts dies
- ▶ Lawn Fawn Small Stitched Rectangle Stackables, Zig Zag Rectangle & Simple Stitched Hillside Lawn Cuts dies
- ▶ clear & Jet Black Lawn Fawn inkpads
- ▶ white Lawn Fawn embossing powder
- ▶ watercolour paper
- ▶ Stormy Sky & Broken China Ranger Tim Holtz Distress Ink
- ▶ white gel pen
- ▶ Lawn Fawn Liquid Stardust
- ▶ Copic markers
- ▶ 3D foam pads
- ▶ manual die-cutting machine
- ▶ heat tool

Stardust onto the watercolour paper panel, allow to dry then stamp a sentiment at the top.

2 Die-cut a Zig Zag Rectangle from Pencil Eraser cardstock and a hillside from Chocolate Bar cardstock. Stamp and heat-emboss the sentiment on the ground then affix at the bottom of the watercolour panel. Layer on top of the Zig Zag Rectangle to frame the scene.

3 Stamp and colour the images, cut out with the co-ordinating dies and adhere to the panel using 3D foam pads.

4 Add accents to the images and sentiment using a white gel pen, then secure the panel to the card front using 3D foam pads.

Top Tip

Use a white gel pen to add details to images for more texture and dimension

Step by step

1 Ink the card front and a die-cut rectangle of watercolour paper using Distress Ink. Flick Liquid



Big thanks

From all of us

You'll need

- ▶ Sage, Narwhal, Pencil Eraser, No. 2 Pencil & Chocolate Bar Lawn Fawn cardstock
- ▶ light grey cardstock
- ▶ Solar White Neenah cardstock
- ▶ Lawn Fawn Big Thanks stamp set & Lawn Cuts dies
- ▶ Lawn Fawn Outside In Stitched Rectangle Stackables & Stitched Hillsides Lawn Cuts dies
- ▶ clear Lawn Fawn inkpad
- ▶ white Lawn Fawn embossing powder
- ▶ Onyx Black VersaFine Clair inkpad
- ▶ Stormy Sky & Broken China Ranger Tim Holtz Distress Oxide Ink
- ▶ 3D foam pads
- ▶ manual die-cutting machine
- ▶ heat tool

Step by step

- 1** Create a card blank from light grey cardstock. Die-cut a stitched rectangle panel from white cardstock and blend with shades of blue ink. Adhere this panel to the card front.
- 2** Die-cut hills from Chocolate Bar cardstock and layer them along the bottom, using 3D foam pads behind the front hill to create dimension.
- 3** Stamp and heat-emboss the images onto coloured cardstock, then use co-ordinating dies to cut them out.
- 4** Arrange the images to create a scene, using 3D foam pads in some places.
- 5** Stamp the sentiment towards the top of the card front to finish.



Top Tip

Use white embossing on coloured cardstock for a unique look and quick colouring



You've always got my back

You'll need

- ▶ Sage & Fog Lawn Fawn cardstock
- ▶ Solar White Neenah cardstock
- ▶ watercolour paper
- ▶ Lawn Fawn Big Thanks stamp set & Lawn Cuts dies
- ▶ Lawn Fawn Outside In Stitched Square Stackables & Grassy Border Lawn Cuts dies

- ▶ Victorian Velvet & Vintage Photo Ranger Tim Holtz Distress Oxide Ink
- ▶ Jet Black & Narwhal Lawn Fawn inkpads
- ▶ Onyx Black VersaFine Clair inkpad
- ▶ Copic markers
- ▶ white gel pen
- ▶ 3D foam pads
- ▶ manual die-cutting machine

Step by step

- 1** Create a square card blank. Die-cut a stitched square from watercolour paper. Blend with pink and brown ink around the edges, flick with clean water to create texture, allow to dry then adhere to the card front.
- 2** Die-cut a square of Fog cardstock. Stamp the sentiment along the bottom, trim into a strip and secure to the bottom of the card front.
- 3** Die-cut a strip of grass from Sage cardstock and affix above the bottom panel.
- 4** Stamp and colour the images, then cut out using co-ordinating dies.
- 5** Attach the images to the card front using 3D foam pads, then add accents with a white gel pen.

Top Tip

Stamp the sentiment before trimming to assure there is plenty of room for it to fit nicely

Card Making MAGIC

BY CHRISTINA GRIFFITHS



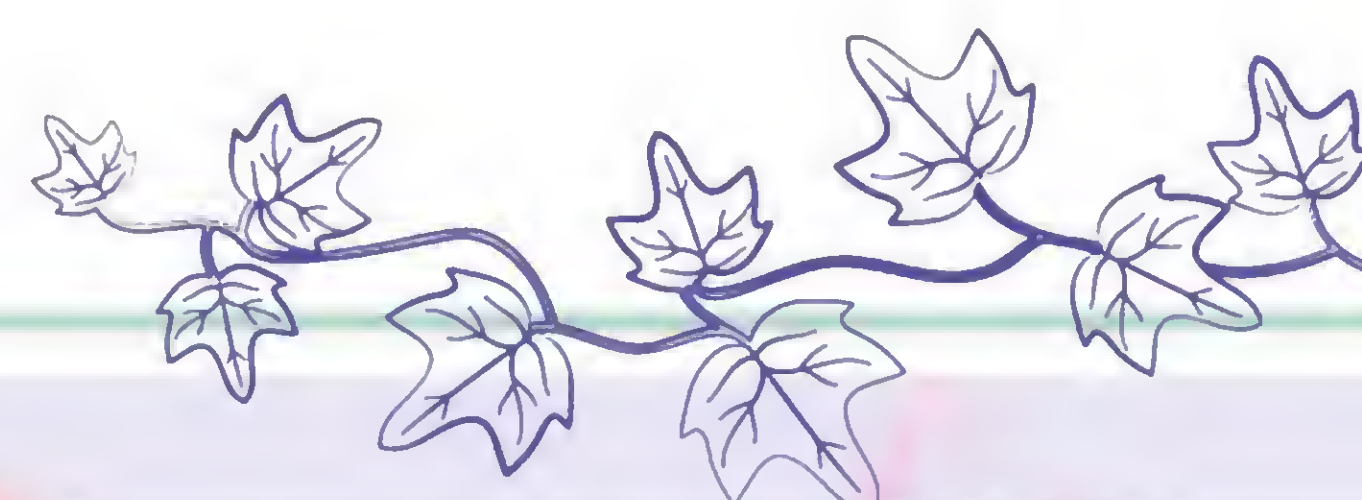
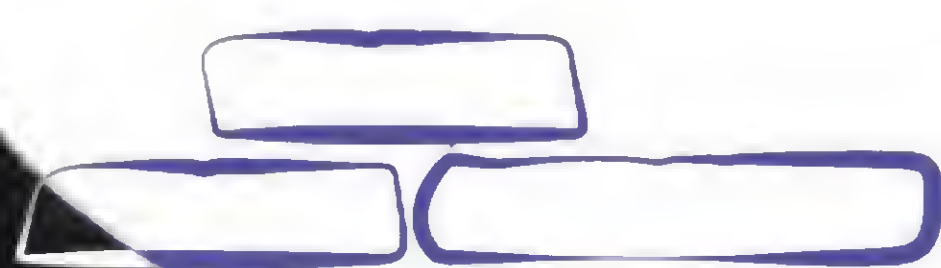
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CERTIFIED REVIEWS



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Cut out & keep

11 pages of inspiring ideas to help you get the most from your Alice in Wonderland Impossible Card Kit

15 all-new projects in
one handy pull-out!



◆ 46 Impossible cards ◆ 49 All about Alice
◆ 50 Off the page ◆ 53 Product picks ◆ 54 Cards for all occasions

Achieve the impossible



Claire Gladman

Claire shows you how to use your Alice in Wonderland kit to create eye-catching impossible cards!



Magical birthday

You'll need

- ▶ Alice in Wonderland Impossible Card Kit
- ▶ white cardstock
- ▶ gold mirror card
- ▶ Dovecraft Fairy Tales paper flowers
- ▶ self-adhesive pearls
- ▶ 3D foam pads

Step by step

1 Pick out the pink flamingo patterned paper set and

separate the sections. Place them over the plain piece of white cardstock and trace around them so that you know where to cut and fold.

2 Cut the downward lines and score across the middle line, then twist one half of the card over, leaving the inner rectangle upwards.

3 Cover the sections with the patterned papers. Cut and

secure a section of plain white cardstock to the back of the upper section to give it strength and hold it up. Add a picture topper to the centre panel using 3D foam pads.

4 Cut a 10.5x2cm strip of gold mirror card and add a slightly smaller piece of patterned paper. Attach across the front of the card using 3D foam pads and decorate with toppers.

5 Decorate the corners of the card with self-adhesive pearls. Secure toppers to the centre panel to finish.



Top Tip Attaching the sections can be fiddly, so use a glue stick to give you scope to adjust if necessary



Happy birthday

You'll need

- ▶ Alice in Wonderland Impossible Card Kit
- ▶ white cardstock
- ▶ 3D foam pads

Step by step

1 Pick out the pink quilted patterned paper set and

separate the sections. Place them over the plain piece of white cardstock and trace around them so that you know where to cut and fold.

2 Cut the downward lines and score across the middle line, then twist one half of the

card over, leaving the inner rectangle upwards.

3 Cover the sections with the patterned papers. Cut and stick a section of plain white cardstock to the back of the upper section to give it strength and hold

it up. Attach a picture topper to the centre section using 3D foam pads.

4 Fix a long topper across the front of the card, then add toppers to the sides using 3D foam pads and a sentiment to the middle section.



We're all mad here

You'll need

- ▶ Alice in Wonderland Impossible Card Kit
- ▶ white cardstock
- ▶ Dovecraft Back to Basics bows
- ▶ 3D foam pads

Step by step

1 Pick out the blue hearts, clubs, spades and diamonds patterned paper set and separate the sections. Place them over the plain piece of white cardstock and trace

around them so that you know where to cut and fold.

2 Cut the downward lines and score across the middle line, then twist one half of the card over, leaving the inner

rectangle upwards.

3 Cover the sections with the patterned papers. Cut and stick a section of plain white cardstock to the back of the upper section to give it strength and hold it up. Add a picture topper to the centre panel using 3D foam pads.

4 Attach a long sentiment topper across the front using 3D foam pads. Add a picture topper to the centre panel and adhere sentiments as shown.

5 Affix a blue bow to the top-left corner of the front panel to finish.

Top Tip

Busy patterned papers are detail in themselves, so don't feel you need to add too much to them



With love

You'll need

- ▶ Alice in Wonderland Impossible Card Kit
- ▶ white cardstock
- ▶ gold mirror card
- ▶ Dovecraft Fairy Tales paper flowers
- ▶ self-adhesive pearls
- ▶ 3D foam pads

Step by step

1 Pick out the pink heart patterned paper set and

separate the sections. Place them over the plain piece of white cardstock and trace so that you know where to cut and fold.

2 Cut the downward lines and score across the middle line, then twist one half of the card over, leaving the inner rectangle upwards.

3 Cover the sections with the patterned papers. Cut and secure a section of plain white

cardstock to the back of the upper section to give it strength and hold it up. Affix a picture topper to the centre panel using 3D foam pads.

4 Cut a 9x1.5cm strip of gold mirror card and add a slightly smaller piece of patterned paper. Secure across the front of the card using 3D foam pads and decorate with toppers and a paper flower.

5 Decorate one side of the card with gold toppers and the other with pearls. Adhere toppers to the centre panel to finish.



Using 3D foam pads to fix some toppers will add interest and depth to the card

Wonderful friend

You'll need

- ▶ Alice in Wonderland Impossible Card Kit
- ▶ white cardstock
- ▶ gold mirror card
- ▶ 3D foam pads

Step by step

1 Pick out the blue patterned paper set and separate the sections. Place them over the plain piece of white cardstock and trace around them so that you know where to cut and fold.

2 Cut the downward lines and score across the middle line, then fold one half of the card over, leaving the inner rectangle upwards.

3 Cover the sections with the patterned papers. Cut and secure a section of plain white cardstock to the back of the upper section to give it strength and hold it up. Stick a picture topper to the centre section using 3D foam pads.



4 Cut a 10.5x2.5cm piece of gold mirror card and stick a slightly smaller rectangle of

patterned cardstock within it. Attach across the front gap using 3D foam pads and decorate with

toppers. Add a butterfly and sentiment topper to the pop-up rectangle.

All about Alice

Alice in Wonderland is a favourite worldwide with adults and children alike, and here's a bit more about its origins

Alice's Adventures in Wonderland, usually shortened to *Alice in Wonderland*, was written by Lewis Carroll (real name Charles Lutwidge Dodgson) in 1865. It tells the story of a young girl, Alice, who falls through a rabbit hole into an underground fantasy world full of unusual creatures. It's a story that has always been hugely popular with adults and children alike, and is a perfect example of the literary nonsense genre.

The novel has never been out of print, and has been translated into at least 97 languages. You'll



find imagery from the story on a plethora of products (see page 53 for just a few examples), and it has been adapted countless times for stage and screen, most notably in the Disney film production from 1951.

The story saw the origin of some of literature's most well-known characters, including Alice herself, the white rabbit, the Cheshire cat, the mad hatter, the march hare and the queen, king and knave of hearts.

SIX IMPOSSIBLE THINGS

- 1 *There's a potion that can make you shrink*
- 2 *And a cake that can make you grow*
- 3 *Animals can talk*
- 4 *Cats can disappear*
- 5 *There is a place called Wonderland*
- 6 *I can slay the Jabberwocky*



Even if you're not overly familiar with the story yourself, you're bound to know of some of its content: down the rabbit hole, the mad tea party and who stole the tarts are just three chapters that have made it into popular vernacular.

Inspired by the 'six impossible things' in the story, this issue we've combined the iconic Alice imagery with an impossible card kit, allowing you to create your own impossible cards – and much more! ♦

WHY WE LOVE ALICE

Super Fan!



Mike Cross

To say I'm in love with *Alice in Wonderland* would be an understatement; it's more of an obsession. It's one of only a handful of books that I go back to time and time again.



Claire Gladman

I had both books, *Alice in Wonderland* and *Through the Looking Glass*, so working with the kit was lovely because it evoked warm memories. I thought it was really versatile.



Liz McGuire

One of my favourite gifts is an illustrated *Alice in Wonderland* book my hubby gave me a few years back as a Christmas present, so I was thrilled to receive this card kit.



Mel Jess

This beautifully illustrated kit will evoke childhood memories. It reminds me of the first time I read the story, and those magical moments are brought to life using the kit!



Mel Jess

Tea party treats

Mel Jess takes inspiration from the mad hatter's tea party with this set of gift ideas using your kit!



Top Tip

If the box is too tight, adjust your score lines by another $\frac{1}{16}$ " to give the box more room to move

Download the templates used to make these projects from www.papercraftmagazines.com

Queen of hearts gift box

You'll need

- ▶ Alice in Wonderland Impossible Card Kit
- ▶ white cardstock
- ▶ twine
- ▶ 3D foam pads
- ▶ 3D glue gel
- ▶ scoreboard

Step by step

1 Cut white cardstock to 8" square and score at $\frac{1}{2}$ ", $1\frac{1}{4}$ ", $1\frac{3}{4}$ " and $2\frac{1}{2}$ " on all sides.

2 Score at 2" and 6" down to the fourth score line you

made on two opposite sides only. On the other two sides score at 3" and 5" down to the second score line.

3 Cut away the excess on the sides to create the basic shadow box card shape.

4 On the sides you scored to the second score line, cut the diagonal from the box out.

5 Fold all the score lines then, on the longer sides, bend in and glue to make up. Repeat on the other side.

6 Make up the last two sides, adding glue to the small tabs and under the diagonals you made to hold in place.

7 Print out one of the downloadable patterned papers and cut out a square to cover the inside of the box.

8 Cut a $6\frac{7}{8} \times 4\frac{5}{8}$ " piece of cardstock and score at $1\frac{3}{16}$ " and $3\frac{1}{16}$ " on the short side and at 3" and $3\frac{1}{16}$ " on the long side.

9 Cut out the small middle sections from the top and

bottom away from the spine.

10 Cover the sides with more patterned paper and cut or punch thumb holes along the sides.

11 Glue the wrap around the box to fit, but not too tightly.

12 Wrap twine around the box and tie in a bow. Using toppers from the kit, decorate the rest of the box, holding the twine in place ready for the box to be filled.

Cupcake treat box

You'll need

- ▶ Alice in Wonderland Impossible Card Kit
- ▶ white & blue cardstock
- ▶ old pot, tub or plastic cup
- ▶ blue ribbon
- ▶ hot-glue gun
- ▶ scoreboard
- ▶ 3D foam pads
- ▶ 3D glue gel

Step by step

1 Take an old pot, tub or plastic cup and glue a small piece of cardstock to the outside. Fold over the opening to create a tab.

2 Cut a 12"-long piece of cardstock the same height as the tub. Concertina-fold the card, glue the ends together and adhere around the tub to create the cupcake base.

3 Print out double-sided patterned paper. Cut two strips just over half the size of the width of the tub, two strips $\frac{3}{4}$ "-1" smaller and one strip smaller again. Concertina-fold all the strips.

4 Stick the ends of the larger strips together and glue to a circle scrap to form a rosette

shape. Make a rosette with the smaller strip.

5 Cut one of the medium-sized strips in half and repeat to make the rosette using only one and a half strips.

6 Cut a circle of cardstock to fit on top of the cupcake tub and attach to the tab you made to create the lid. Add another tab on top to help with lifting the lid.

7 Glue and stack the three rosettes together, adding height with extra cardstock, 3D foam pads or 3D glue gel.

8 Wrap a ribbon around the bottom of the cupcake with a bow and decorate with the toppers from the kit.



Top Tip

If you don't have a tub, lid or container, use a tissue roll and glue one of the ends closed. A plastic bottle would work too, but cover any sharp edges once cut to size



Teabag dispenser

You'll need

- ▶ Alice in Wonderland Impossible Card Kit
- ▶ white & cream cardstock
- ▶ cream ribbon
- ▶ hot-glue gun
- ▶ 3D foam pads
- ▶ scoreboard

Step by step

1 Take a piece of A4 cardstock and score at $1\frac{1}{2}$ ", 5", $7\frac{1}{2}$ ", 10" and $10\frac{1}{2}$ " along the long side. Flip to the short side with the smaller score line at the bottom and score at $2\frac{1}{2}$ " right through and at 1" in the second and fourth spaces from the top.

2 Cut off the excess along the long side to the $10\frac{1}{2}$ " score line, up the score lines for each space to the score line along the short side. Cut off the excess up to the 1" score line.

3 Cut a $3 \times \frac{3}{4}$ " window in the main body of the dispenser coming $\frac{1}{4}$ " up from the score line and within the third panel.

4 Fold all the score lines and glue together to create the dispenser, gluing the bottom tabs to each other to close the bottom.

5 Score a 4"-square piece of cardstock at $\frac{3}{4}$ " on all sides using the base maker of a scoreboard or at $1\frac{1}{16}$ " if you don't have a box maker scoreboard. Fold, cut and make up the lid.

6 Cut a $2\frac{3}{4}$ " square of cardstock and stick to the top of the lid. Check the lid fits in the dispenser.

7 Print out one of the downloadable papers and trim to cover all the sides and lid. Glue onto a 3"-square base. Decorate with ribbon and the toppers from the kit to finish.

Top Tip

Check the lid fits in the dispenser before gluing the sides, to allow for adjustments



Teacup gift

You'll need

- ▶ Alice in Wonderland Impossible Card Kit
- ▶ template
- ▶ white & pink cardstock
- ▶ mulberry flowers
- ▶ treats tied in a clear bag
- ▶ hot-glue gun
- ▶ 3D foam pads

Step by step

- 1** Print out the template and use to cut out eight sides for the teacup and the base from pink cardstock. Glue the sides together and add in the bases to form the teacup.
- 2** Use the downloadable patterned papers to cover the sides using the decorative template.
- 3** Cut out the handle and cover with patterned paper.

Attach more patterned paper to the back at the smaller end.

4 Curve the wide side of the handle in on itself and secure to the top of the teacup. Curl the shorter end in on itself and glue to make a loop then affix it to the cup.

5 Stick one of the toppers and sentiments from the kit to the teacup using 3D foam pads.

6 Finish with matching mulberry flowers and fill with treats or a gift.



Top Tip You can reduce the height of the teacup by reducing the template size and making lots to create favours for a tea party

Teapot gift card holder

You'll need

- ▶ Alice in Wonderland Impossible Card Kit
- ▶ template
- ▶ white cardstock
- ▶ gems
- ▶ 3D foam pads
- ▶ 3D glue gel

Step by step

- 1** Use the template to cut out the body of the gift card holder and other pieces from white cardstock.
- 2** Print out one of the downloadable patterned papers and use the template to create the decorative panel.
- 3** Secure patterned paper to the teapot and stick the lid border and handle on.
- 4** Use the toppers from the kit to decorate the main body, adding matching gems.
- 5** Stick one of the sentiments from the kit inside the gift card holder under where the card will sit, ready to surprise!



Top Tip These would make great tea party invitations. Instead of adding a sentiment inside, add a text panel with the party details



IndigoBlu Alice I stamp set
£17.99
www.indigoblu.com

Alice in Wonderland Bonkers print

£15
www.notonthehighstreet.com



Whittard Queen of Hearts Tea-For-One

£40
www.whittard.co.uk

Product picks

If you're a fan of Alice in Wonderland you're going to love these fab products!

Alice in Wonderland vintage-style card toppers

£2
www.etsy.com



Curiouser & Curiouser cushion cover

£27.50
www.notonthehighstreet.com

Stamperia Alice 12x12" paper pad

£9.95
www.charmedcardsandcrafts.co.uk



Alice in Wonderland antique silver charms

£3.15
www.etsy.com



Curiouser & curiouser



Liz McGuire

We asked Liz to use the kit to create regular cards and we love what she's come up with!



Magical birthday

You'll need

- ▶ Alice in Wonderland Impossible Card Kit
- ▶ white 12.5cm-square card blank
- ▶ black cardstock
- ▶ 3D foam pads

Step by step

1 Trim four pieces of patterned paper to 5cm square and matt onto black cardstock, leaving narrow borders. Adhere to the card front as shown.

2 Mount the topper onto black cardstock and attach to the card front using foam pads.

3 Affix the two sentiments and the bow to the card front using 3D foam pads to finish.



Top Tip Simple designs like these look really effective when you use co-ordinating paper and topper designs!

A dream is a wish

You'll need

- ▶ Alice in Wonderland Impossible Card Kit
- ▶ white 14.5cm-square tent-fold card blank
- ▶ black cardstock
- ▶ 3D foam pads

Step by step

1 Trim three pieces of patterned paper to 3x12cm and matt onto black cardstock, leaving narrow borders. Adhere to the card front as shown.

2 Mount two toppers onto black cardstock and secure to the card front using 3D foam pads.

3 Attach the two sentiments and playing card motifs to the card front using 3D foam pads.

Top Tip

Get creative with patterned paper panels to give added interest to your designs!



All the best people are bonkers

You'll need

- ▶ Alice in Wonderland Impossible Card Kit
- ▶ white 9x12.5cm tent-fold card blank
- ▶ black cardstock
- ▶ 3D foam pads

Step by step

1 Trim a piece of patterned paper to 11.5x3cm and matt onto black cardstock, leaving narrow borders. Adhere to the card front as shown.

2 Mount the topper onto black cardstock and attach to the card front using 3D foam pads.

3 Affix the two sentiments, top hat and playing cards to the card front using 3D foam pads.

Top Tip

Use topper elements such as the playing cards to add a perfectly co-ordinating finishing touch



Wonderful friend

You'll need

- ▶ Alice in Wonderland Impossible Card Kit
- ▶ white 9x12.5cm card blank
- ▶ black cardstock
- ▶ 3D foam pads

Step by step

1 Trim two pieces of patterned paper to 5x8cm and matt onto black cardstock, leaving narrow borders. Adhere to the card front as shown.

2 Mount the topper onto black cardstock and attach to the card front using 3D foam pads.

3 Secure the two sentiments, clock and key to the card front using 3D foam pads.



Top Tip Matt the papers and toppers onto black cardstock to make them really stand out from the white background

Achieve the impossible

You'll need

- ▶ Alice in Wonderland Impossible Card Kit
- ▶ white 14.5cm-square scallop-edged card blank
- ▶ black cardstock
- ▶ 3D foam pads

Step by step

1 Mount the two toppers onto black cardstock and attach to the card front using 3D foam pads.

2 Adhere the sentiment to the centre of the card using 3D foam pads.

3 Affix the teacups, teapot, flamingo, bottle, butterfly and flowers to the card front using 3D foam pads.



Top Tip Tidy up the popped-out toppers by cutting off any small connective tags



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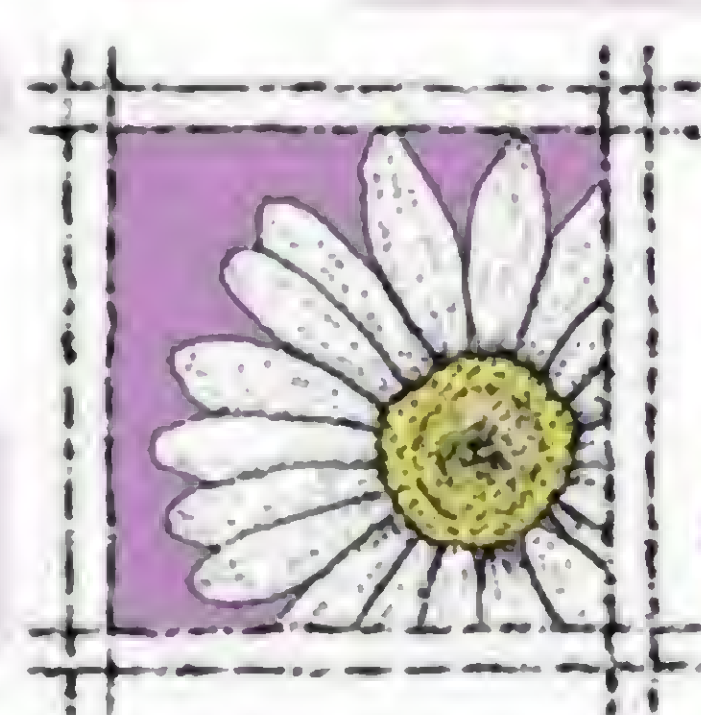
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Sarah Gray

Sarah Gray tells us all about her style and her own craft brand, Funky Fossil Designs



– we make and sell stencils and MDF shapes and have added our own stamp range too.

Describe your craft space at home. Do you have your own craft room or do you have it out all over the house?

I do have a craft room (our spare bedroom), which is absolutely crammed full of stuff! I am not a tidy crafter and end up working on a very small square of desk space. I will have to wait until one of the boys moves out before I can move into a larger space!

Where do you get your inspiration from for your projects?

I see lots of inspiration on Instagram and Pinterest and am also influenced by trends in home décor and fashion.

How long would you say you spending crafting in a week?

I do some crafting every day – it is my happy place! I would

estimate that I spend around 10-15 hours a week crafting.

What is your dream crafting job?

Starting Funky Fossil last year and growing my little business is definitely my dream crafting job. I have had loads of online support from the crafting community and am slowly building awareness of the Funky Fossil brand. It is so varied – from designing, to working with other designers, making the products, creating cards/projects and promoting them through social media etc – there is always a new part of the business that I need to learn!

Is there another type of craft you'd like to try but haven't yet?

I have a long list! In the short term I would love to spend time learning brush lettering and also embroidery. They are both things that I would like to incorporate into our designs. ♦

Tell us a bit about yourself – how long have you been crafting? What led you to crafting? What is your preferred cardmaking style?

I have been crafting for well over a decade now (I decided to stop counting at 10 years!). I started when my youngest was very small as I wanted to try scrapbooking. That is when I discovered my love of stamping and stencilling, which took me in to cardmaking soon afterwards. I think that I would describe my style as 'clean grunge' – I love using ink, paste and creating layers on my work, but with an equal balance of white space. I am trying to become more relaxed and looser in my crafting style.

What is one item from your craft stash that you couldn't be without?

If I am assuming that I have an unlimited supply of cardstock and the basics such as scissors

and adhesive, I think that I would go for Distress Oxide Ink as they are so versatile.

What is your go-to craft tool/item?

I reach for my Tim Holtz Stamp Platform every day and take it away with me too!

What is your favourite crafty project you've made recently?

The cards shown here, which have all been made using Funky Fossil stamps and stencil.

What are some of your favourite papercraft brands and why?

There are just so many wonderful companies whose designs I love. Visible Image, AAll&Create and IndigoBlu make really quirky designs and I love the clean style of stamps that Uniko brings us. Obviously my favourite brand is my own company – Funky Fossil Designs – www.funkyfossil.co.uk



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Découpage delights



Kirsty has made some fab foiled cards using the latest découpage sheets from Hot Off The Press!

Greetings

You'll need

- ▶ white, gold & red cardstock
- ▶ Hot Off The Press Homeward Bound 3D Papier Tole die-cuts
- ▶ red & cream baker's twine
- ▶ brown self-adhesive pearls
- ▶ 3D foam pads

Step by step

1 Create a 4¾"-square tent-fold card blank. Cut a piece of red cardstock slightly smaller than the card front, layer onto gold cardstock and trim, leaving a narrow border around three of the sides. Attach to the card front.

2 Assemble the découpage camera topper and secure to the card front.

3 Attach a 'GREETINGS' topper using 3D foam pads, along with the circular topper.

4 Wrap a length of baker's twine around the banner topper and fix in place. Add adhesive pearls to the banner and camera to finish.



Where to buy

Hot Off The Press foiled découpage sheets are available from www.craftstash.co.uk



Top Tip

Try layering the toppers in different formations on the card front until you make a configuration that you are happy with



Top Tip

Why not create an unusually shaped card blank to echo the transport theme of your design?

Celebrate

You'll need

- ▶ white, green & white cardstock
- ▶ Hot Off The Press Vintage Journeys 3D Pyramid die-cuts
- ▶ Cottage Cutz Celebrate die
- ▶ brown & cream baker's twine
- ▶ manual die-cutting machine
- ▶ circle template
- ▶ 3D foam pads

Step by step

1 Create a circular tent-fold card blank from white cardstock using a circular template, making sure to create the fold at the top.

2 Cut a green circle smaller than the card front and fix in place. Create the découpage highway sign from the pack pack and adhere to the card front.

3 Pop out a die-cut stamp, compass and tags, and add a length of twine to the top of each of the tags.

4 Adhere the die-cuts to the card front, tucked behind the main highway sign topper.

5 Die-cut 'Celebrate' from brown cardstock and affix.

Make a wish

You'll need

- ▶ white & gold cardstock
- ▶ pink pearlescent cardstock
- ▶ Hot Off The Press Majestic Mirage 3D Papier Toile die-cuts
- ▶ Anita's Glitterations 'Make a wish' sentiment sticker
- ▶ soft pink self-adhesive rhinestones
- ▶ 3D foam pads

Step by step

1 Create a tapered tent-fold card blank measuring 4½" in width at the widest point by 4¼" in length.

2 Cut a piece of red cardstock slightly smaller than the card front, matt onto gold cardstock and attach to the card front.

3 Assemble the découpage floral topper and adhere to the card front. Add a sentiment sticker as shown.

4 Create a smaller flower topper and secure to the top-right corner of the card front. Add soft pink rhinestones to the centres of the flowers.



Top Tip

Adding rhinestones and pearls really enhances the beauty of these foiled 3D die-cut toppers

Happy birthday

You'll need

- ▶ white, brown & gold cardstock
- ▶ Hot Off The Press Stolen Moments 3D Papier Tole die-cuts
- ▶ Woodware 1" circle punch
- ▶ clear Kaisercraft 'Birthday' sticker
- ▶ brown & cream baker's twine
- ▶ bronze self-adhesive rhinestones
- ▶ 3D foam pads

Top Tip

Adding your own stamped or sticker sentiments helps to complete the overall look of the découpage topper

Step by step

1 Create a white 5x4¼" card blank, then attach a slightly smaller piece of gold mirror card to the card front.

2 Cut a slightly smaller piece of brown cardstock, create circular notches in each corner using a small circle punch and adhere both panels together. Secure to the card front.

3 Assemble the découpage typewriter topper and wrap a length of baker's twine around the banner part, tying a small knot and trimming the ends. Affix the topper to the card front.

5 Attach the 'Birthday' sticker to a journaling topper and fix in place using 3D foam pads. Add rhinestone accents to finish.



Be your own kind of beautiful

You'll need

- ▶ white & brown cardstock
- ▶ Aquamarine Stamps by Chloe Luxury Pearl Card
- ▶ Hot Off The Press Artful Affirmations 3D Papier Tole die-cuts
- ▶ green Trimcraft doily
- ▶ brown self-adhesive pearls
- ▶ copper Papermania large eyelet
- ▶ 3D foam pads

Step by step

1 Create a white 4½"-square card blank. Matt brown and Aquamarine cardstock onto the card front, leaving narrow borders.

2 Create the découpage butterfly topper and attach a copper eyelet to the tag on the topper.

3 Layer the topper onto a green doily and attach to the card front.

4 Secure a small butterfly topper in place as shown, then add adhesive pearls to the bodies of both butterflies.



Top Tip

Adding an eyelet to a tag topper creates dimension and enhances the overall look of the topper



WINDOW GATEFOLD CARDS

Create cards that really stand out from the crowd with Teresa's in-depth guide to creating window gatefold cards



Teresa Morgan

Creating cards with fancy folds elevates your cardmaking to a new level. I know that I am always on the lookout for ideas for creating cards that are a little bit different and that give me the opportunity to use lots of varying embellishments. Perfect for special occasions as well as everyday greetings cards, these window gatefold designs certainly have the 'wow' factor. With just some simple nesting shaped dies, you can create elegant cards with lots of detail

and dimension. These can be decorated on the inside as well as the outside, you can add belly band closures if you choose to, and there are so many options for embellishing.

Here I will show you how to create a basic card with step-by-step photos. Each card is made from two separate pieces, attached together at the back. All the card bases here are created in the same way, but using different shaped dies. Then each card project has additional ideas for decoration and embellishment using stamps, embossing folders, die-cuts and more. Whether you are looking for fun birthday cards or glamorous wedding designs, these window gatefold cards are sure to be a hit with your recipients.

You'll need

◆ white, purple, green, lilac, dark pink, pale pink & yellow cardstock ◆ vellum ◆ nesting circle, hexagon, heart & star dies ◆ Gina K Designs Wreath Builder bundle & Inspiration Mosaic stamp set ◆ Altenew Weekend Doodles stamp set ◆ Jet Black, Vivid Chartreuse, Pink Peony & Vibrant Fuchsia Ranger Archival Ink ◆ Worn Lipstick, Lucky Clover, Fossilised Amber & Shaded Lilac Ranger Distress Oxide Ink ◆ Visible

Image Born To Perform stamp set ◆ blending brush ◆ Artful Days paper flowers ◆ Sizzix Floral Wreath die set ◆ Tuxedo Black Memento inkpad ◆ Crafter's Companion Damask embossing folder ◆ clear WOW! Embossing Pad ◆ Metallic Gold Rich WOW! embossing powder ◆ heat tool ◆ colouring pencils ◆ Berry Splash Mix Pretty Pink Posh gems ◆ 3D foam pads ◆ stamping platform ◆ scoreboard ◆ manual die-cutting machine



Just a note

Step by step

1 Cut two 5¾x11½ pieces of white cardstock to create a window gatefold card, using a hexagon die to cut the aperture.

2 Cut a 5" square of dark pink cardstock and die-cut a hexagon from the centre. Emboss and cut in half. Attach the two pieces to the front of the card.

3 Die-cut some smaller hexagons from pale pink and lilac cardstock. Layer them together and attach inside the card, lining up with the hexagon aperture.

4 Die-cut a smaller hexagon from white cardstock and stamp the sentiment

and leaves using clear embossing ink. Heat-emboss with gold embossing powder and colour the leaves with pencils.

5 Attach the stamped hexagon inside the card using 3D foam pads, then add gems to finish.



You make my heart happy

Step by step

1 Create a window gatefold card blank from pale pink cardstock, using a heart die to create the aperture.

2 Cut a 3¾x11" piece of white cardstock and score at 5½" to create a folded insert. Position inside the window gatefold card blank and lightly sketch around the aperture so you know where to position the flowers. Remove the insert and glue the flowers in place, then erase the pencil line.

3 Attach the insert inside the gatefold card using double-sided tape.

4 Stamp the sentiment onto white cardstock and trim. Cut a 1x9" strip of dark pink cardstock. Attach the sentiment to the middle then score and fold the strip to create a belly band for the card. Use double-sided tape to stick the ends together at the back. Slide over the card to keep it closed.



Top Tip

Use hot glue or silicone glue to attach the flowers





I believe in you

Top Tip Use masking tape to hold the die in place while cutting

Step by step

- 1** Create a window gatefold card using the step-by-step guide (right).
- 2** Stamp small and large stars randomly over the card front as shown.
- 3** Cut a piece of white cardstock to fit inside the back of the card blank and stamp a sentiment through the aperture.
- 4** Create a star mask by die-cutting a star from a scrap of cardstock. Place the mask on the insert, ensuring it lines up with the aperture in the card front, and use a blending brush to apply Worn Lipstick Distress Oxide Ink around the edges to frame the sentiment.



How to... create a window gatefold card



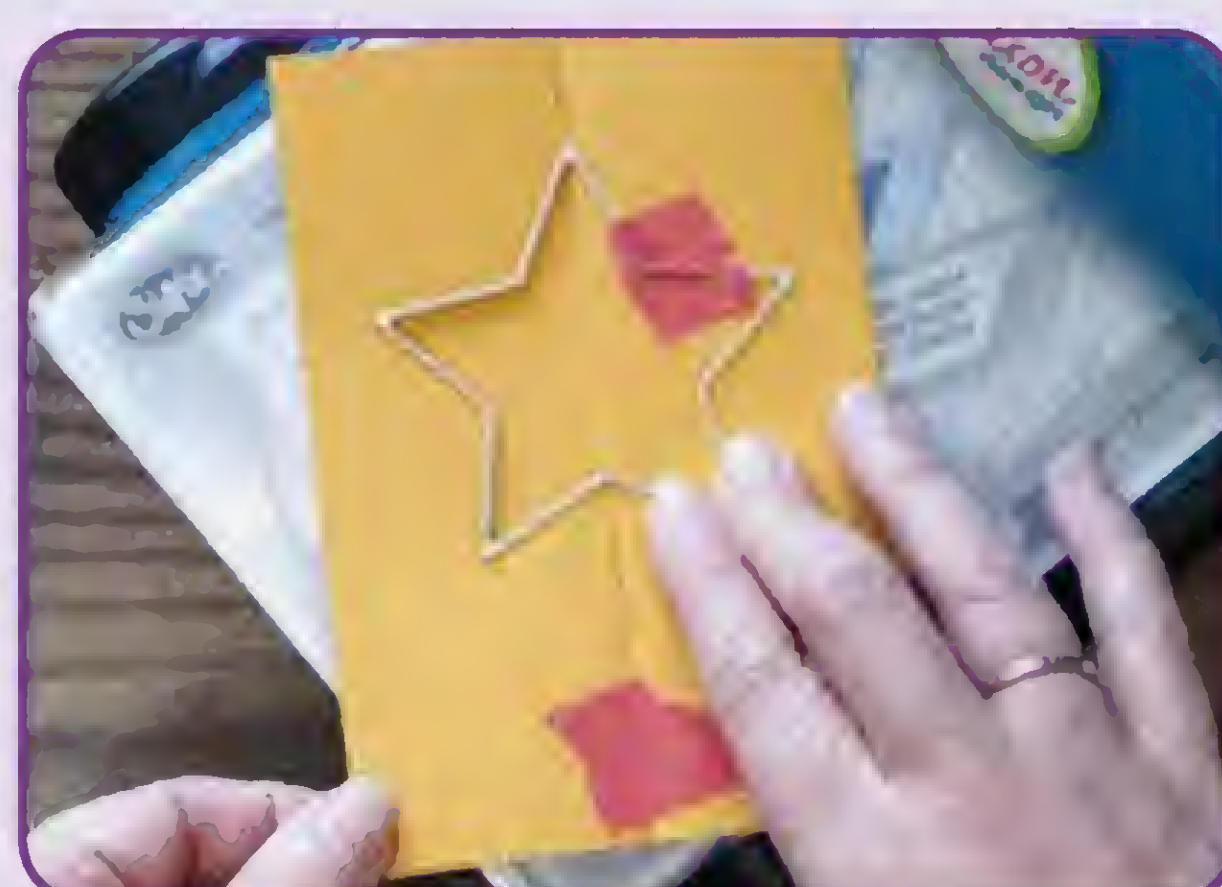
- 1** Cut an A4 piece of yellow cardstock in half. Take each piece and score and fold in half. Score and fold back one side of each at the halfway point to create a Z-fold.



- 2** Trim off a narrow strip from one piece of cardstock to allow the two pieces to fit together neatly.



- 3** Take one piece of cardstock, line the die up centrally on the first fold and tape in place. Pass through your die-cutting machine.



- 4** Reassemble the two halves of the card and position the die on the second side, lining up with the first cut. Tape in place on the second side.



- 5** Open up the card and make the second cut.



- 6** Stick the two sides together at the back using double-sided tape.

A friend like you

Step by step

1 Create a window gatefold card blank from white cardstock, using a circle die to cut the aperture.

2 Die-cut the wreath and floral elements from coloured cardstock and arrange around the circular window. Use glue and 3D foam pads to attach and layer the elements. Carefully snip the wreath where it crosses the join of the two sides.

3 Cut a piece of pale pink cardstock to line the inside of the card blank. Stamp the sentiment onto white cardstock and die-cut into a circle. Matt onto a larger circle of lilac cardstock and affix inside using 3D foam pads.



Top Tip

Use 3D foam pads to add dimension to die-cut elements



Best birthday ever

Step by step

1 Cut two 4x8" pieces of purple cardstock and create a square window gatefold card, using a circle die to create the aperture.

2 Cut a 3¾" square of white cardstock and use the Wreath Builder template and stamps to create a floral frame. Secure inside the card blank.

3 Die-cut a circle of vellum, and smaller circles of dark pink and white cardstock. Stamp the sentiment and frame onto the white circle, then matt onto the dark pink and vellum circles.

4 Cut a 1x9" strip of yellow cardstock and attach the circles to the centre using 3D foam pads. Score and fold the strip to create a belly band and stick the ends together at the back. Slide over the card.

Top Tip

If you don't have the Wreath Builder template, just mask off the centre of the insert and stamp around the edge

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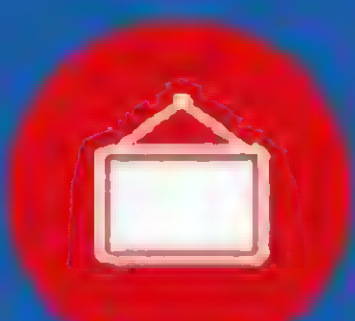
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Let your spirit run free



Sarah Phelan

We love these cards with a mindful feel, and they're so easy to make using the First Edition Free Spirit paper pad!



Top Tip

It's best to use special craft scissors that are created for fussy-cutting when you create projects like this, as they are sharp right to the tip and allow a much nicer finish

Shine bright

You'll need

- ▶ First Edition Free Spirit 12x12" paper pad
- ▶ Blackberry Bliss Stampin' Up! cardstock
- ▶ 3D foam pads

Step by step

1 Create a 5"-square card blank from Blackberry Bliss cardstock, then open up the card

and cut a slit down each side that is 1" from the side of the card and starts 1" from the top and stops 1" from the bottom.

2 Score each of the 1"-wide panels at 1" and 2" from the bottom of both the front and back of the card. Create a mountain fold on the first of each of the score lines

and a valley fold on the second. This will create a centre stepper card blank.

3 Cut out one of the toppers from the paper pad and attach this to the top of your centre panel, leaving a narrow border around the outside.

4 Cut two $\frac{3}{4} \times 2\frac{3}{4}$ " strips of patterned paper and

attach these to the side panels of the card.

5 Cut out some stones from the paper pad and secure them to the centre panel, ensuring they overlap the topper, then add more along the bottom of the card, using glue for some and 3D foam pads for the rest.

Smile more worry less



Secure the frame and central image, from the topper, to the front of the card while both side panels are closed to ensure the correct positioning and affix to only one side panel

You'll need

- ▶ First Edition Free Spirit 12x12" paper pad
- ▶ Melon Mambo Stampin' Up! cardstock
- ▶ Carnation Crafts Layering Circles dies
- ▶ 3D foam pads
- ▶ manual die-cutting machine

Step by step

1 Cut Melon Mambo cardstock to 10x5" and score it at 2½" and 7½" along the long side to create a gatefold card blank.

2 Cut a 4¾"-square piece of patterned paper and cut it in half, sticking one piece on each side of the card front so they meet in the middle.

3 Use one of the circle dies to cut out a sentiment topper from the paper pack, and another one to cut the centre out of the topper, separating the pink frame from the central image.

4 Stick one half of the frame to the left-hand side of the card front and one half of the central image to the right-hand side.

Live your dreams

You'll need

- ▶ First Edition Free Spirit 12x12" paper pad
- ▶ Blackberry Bliss Stampin' Up! cardstock
- ▶ Golf Stampin' Up! Glimmer Paper
- ▶ Creative Wiry Words Mindful Collection stamp set
- ▶ gold embossing powder
- ▶ VersaMark inepad
- ▶ Champagne Shimmer Hunkydory Diamond Sparkles glitter
- ▶ Quickie Glue pen
- ▶ 3D foam pads
- ▶ heat tool

Step by step

1 Create an A6 tent-fold card blank from Blackberry Bliss cardstock.

2 Create a panel of gold Glimmer Paper the same width as your card and 2¾" high, and a Blackberry Bliss panel the same width again and 2½" high. Add these to your card front.

3 Cut out six feathers from the paper pack, then draw a line with your Quickie Glue pen

down the centre of each and add glitter. Secure these to your Blackberry Bliss panel.

4 Stamp and heat-emboss a sentiment onto Blackberry Bliss cardstock and cut out,

leaving a narrow border around the words. Add this across the feathers to finish.



Leaving a narrow border around the outside of your sentiment when you cut it out helps it to stand out against the card and also makes it easier to cut out



Wishing you happiness

You'll need

- ▶ First Edition Free Spirit 12x12" paper pad
- ▶ Blackberry Bliss Stampin' Up! cardstock
- ▶ Creative Wiry Words Mindful Collection stamp set
- ▶ Stampin' Up! Window Sheets
- ▶ gold embossing powder
- ▶ VersaMark inkpad
- ▶ 3D foam pads
- ▶ heat tool

Step by step

1 Cut a 5½x5" piece of Blackberry Bliss cardstock and score at ½" on the longest side to create a small flap. Cut a 5" square of acetate and attach it to the front of the flap, creating a card with an acetate front and a Blackberry Bliss back.

2 Cut two tile panels measuring 5" wide from patterned paper, trimming along the tiles with your scissors to create a fancy edge. Place one of the panels at the top and one at the

bottom of your card, with the fancy edges pointing into the centre.

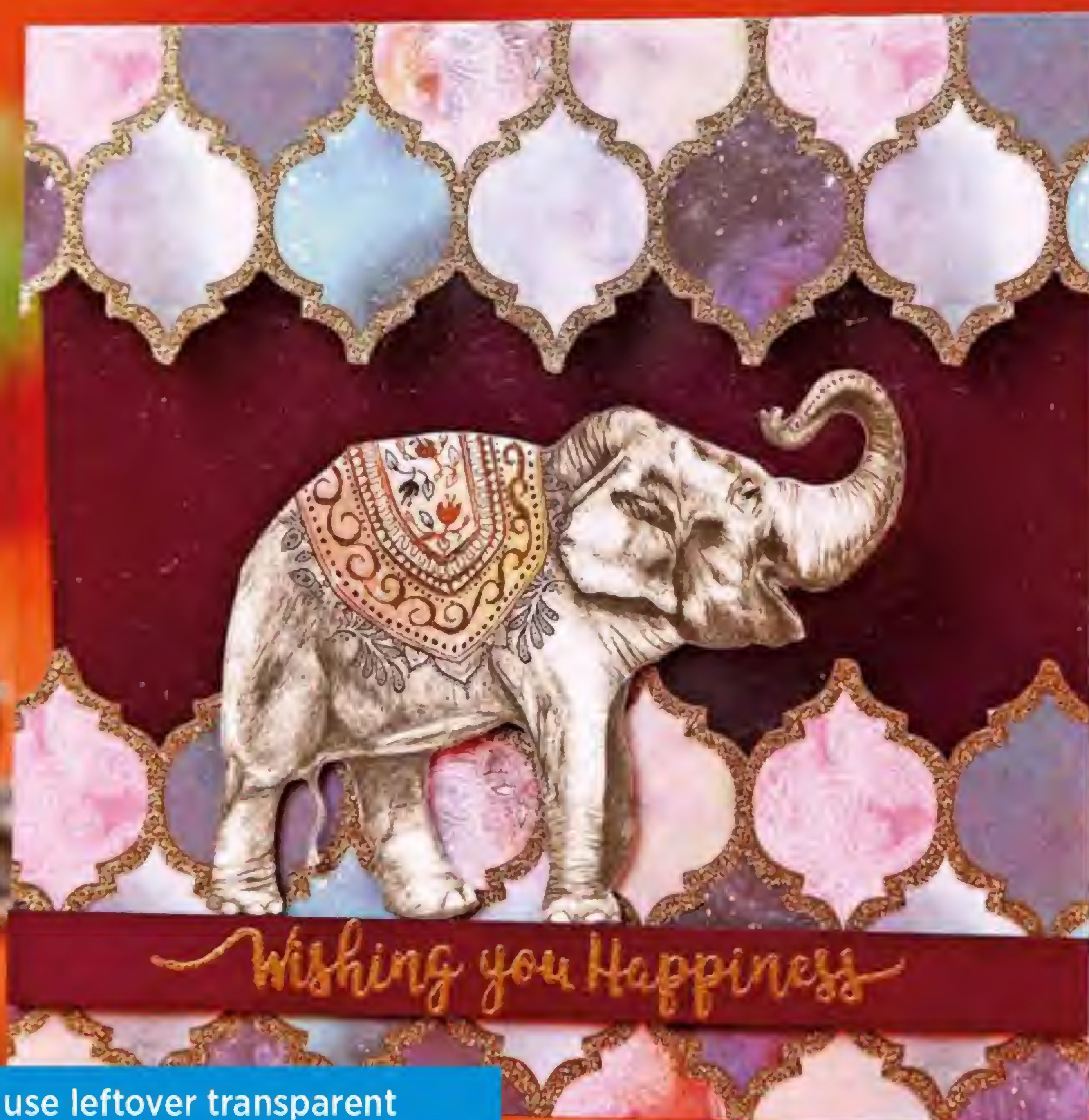
3 Stamp and heat-emboss a sentiment onto a strip of

Blackberry Bliss cardstock. Add this across the bottom tile panel using 3D foam pads.

4 Cut out an elephant image and use 3D foam pads to

attach its legs to the card, taking care to ensure that you can't see the 3D foam pads when you open the card.

Top Tip You can use leftover transparent packaging instead of acetate to save money and help the environment!



Sitting Buddha



then cutting the background off the second image, and cutting the background and the leaves behind the Buddha off the third image. Stack them together with 3D foam pads to create a découpage image.

3 Cut a 5¾" square of patterned paper, then die-cut a circle in the centre of this and the card front, large enough to fit the Buddha inside.

4 Use the next-biggest circle die from the set to cut around the circle you have already cut in the patterned paper, then add it to the card front, creating a Melon Mambo frame around the circle aperture.

5 Cut a 5¾" square of pearlescent paper from the paper pack and stick this inside the card. Add the Buddha découpage topper to the inside of the card, ensuring it sits centrally in the aperture when you close the card.

6 Cut 10 flowers from the buddha paper and use 3D foam pads to add them around the aperture on the front of the card. Finish each flower with a Jewel Drop in the centre.

Top Tip Affix the patterned paper with Washi tape to the front of the card before you cut the hole through the card front, to ensure it is in the same place on both layers

You'll need

- ▶ First Edition Free Spirit 12x12" paper pad
- ▶ Melon Mambo Stampin' Up! cardstock
- ▶ 3D foam pads
- ▶ Carnation Crafts Layering Circles dies
- ▶ Strawberry Coulis Tonic Studios Nuvo Jewel Drops
- ▶ manual die-cutting machine

Step by step

1 Create a 6"-square card blank from Melon Mambo cardstock.

2 Cut out three of the Buddha images from the paper pack, cutting the full image once,



Believe in yourself

You'll need

- ▶ First Edition Free Spirit 12x12" paper pad
- ▶ Blackberry Bliss & Melon Mambo Stampin' Up! cardstock
- ▶ Creative Wiry Words Mindful Collection stamp set
- ▶ gold embossing powder
- ▶ VersaMark inkpad
- ▶ 3D foam pads
- ▶ heat tool

Step by step

1 Create a 5"-square card blank from Melon Mambo cardstock, then score the front at 2½" to create an easel card.

2 Cut a 4¾" square of patterned paper and secure to the card front.

3 Cut out an elephant topper and matt onto Blackberry Bliss cardstock. Place 3D foam pads on the bottom half of

the topper and attach it to the bottom half of your card front, leaving the top half free to move.

4 Cut a 5"-wide panel of tile-patterned paper and stick across the bottom of the inside of your card.

5 Stamp and heat-emboss a sentiment onto a strip of Blackberry Bliss cardstock. Add this across the tile panel using 3D

foam pads to create a stopper for your easel.

Top Tip

After adding the patterned paper to the front of the card, ensure you fold the easel over before the glue dries. This will stop it splitting and create a nicer finish

6 ways with felt



*Sarah Jane
Smallwood-Smith*

This month we focus on felt, with this ingenious set of creations that are sure to inspire your own makes!

Upcycled photo frame

I have had the pink hessian in my craft stash for ages and wasn't sure what I was going to use it for – until now! I think it makes a great background for this and is ideal for a gift.



With love plaque

I love using napkins and Mod Podge together and I thought this would be a great present for my friend. I think it's simple and effective.

Upcycled headband

I'm always wearing headbands, especially when I'm crafting, so thought I would customise one of my own! I added the gem to one of the flowers because I love sparkle! I loved making these projects without having to worry about sewing – I used a glue gun for everything!



Craft room sign

I've wanted a sign like this in my craft room for ages now, so it was time to make one! My craft room is blue and white, so I drew inspiration for this from the colour scheme of my room. I've been trying to teach myself modern calligraphy, so thought I would try out my new skills with this sign.



Flower card

I wanted to make a simple card using the fantastic felt I had. I just die-cut the flowers, layered them and drew in the stem and leaves freehand with an acrylic paint pen (a new favourite in my craft room). I wanted the hand-drawn elements to be sketchy, so they contrasted the clean lines of the petals.



Upcycled pencil

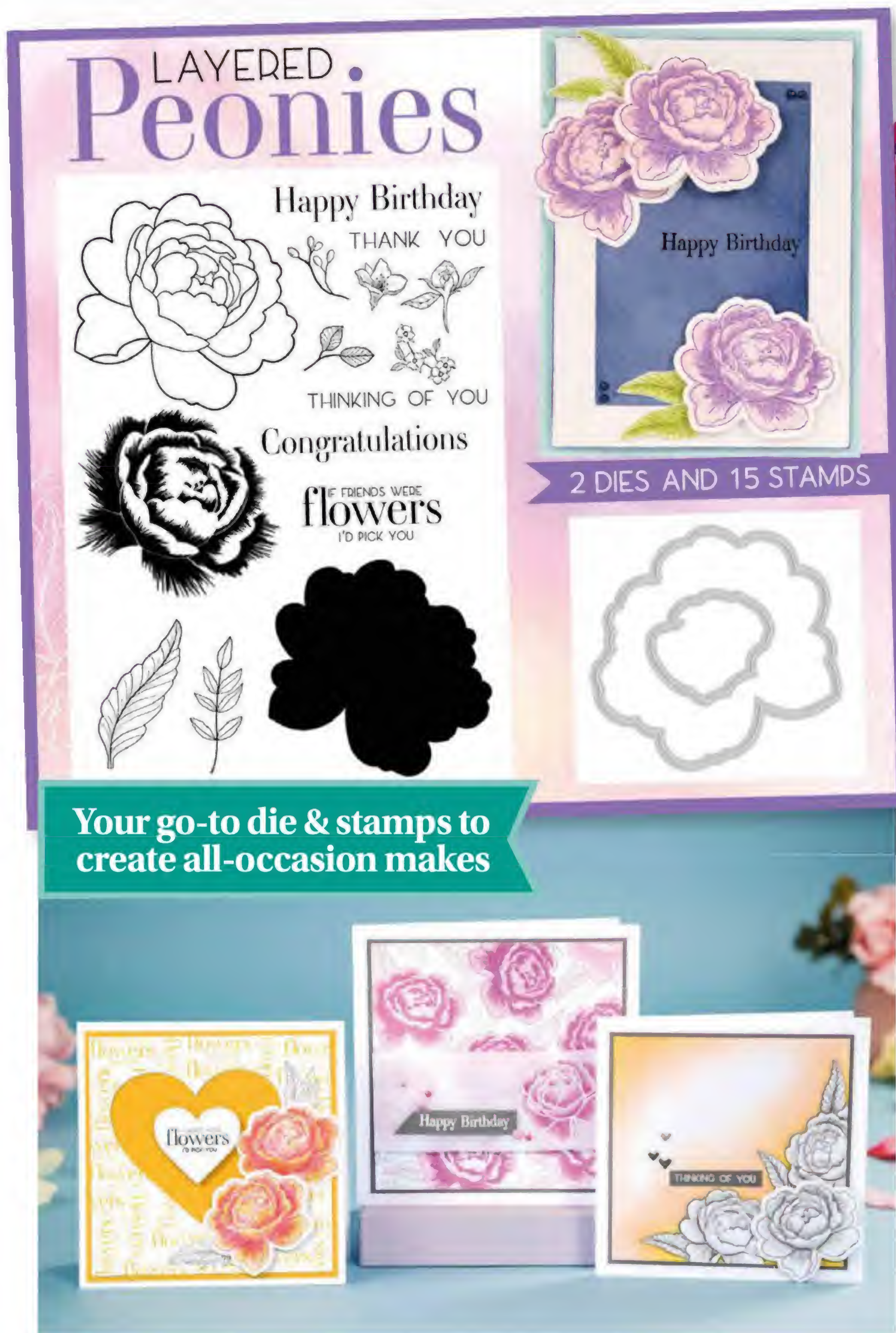
I have been using these boring pencils for a while now, thinking I must decorate them somehow, and what better way than with a flower on top? Plus the adhesive tape matches my craft room perfectly!

LAYERED PEONIES

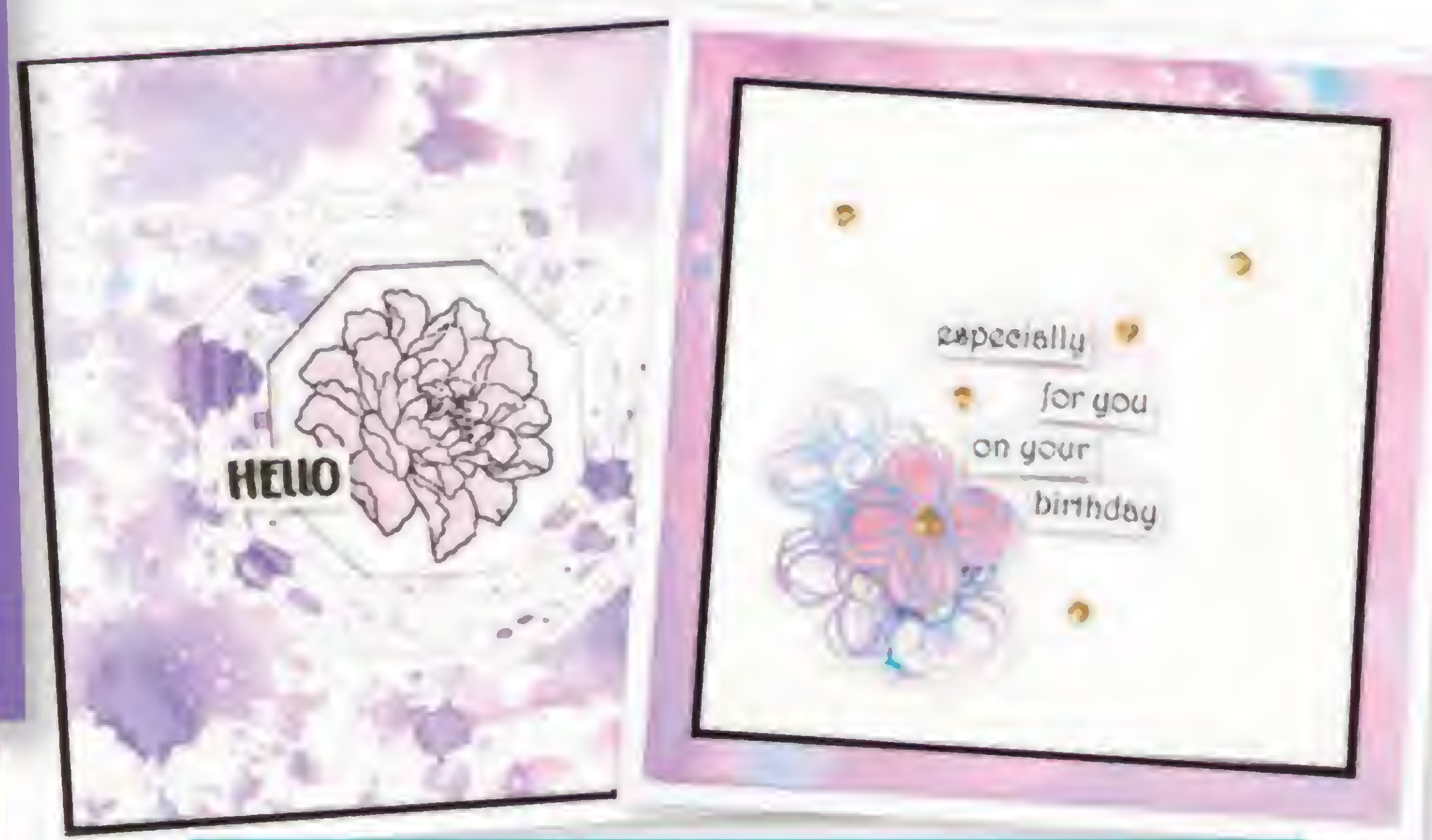
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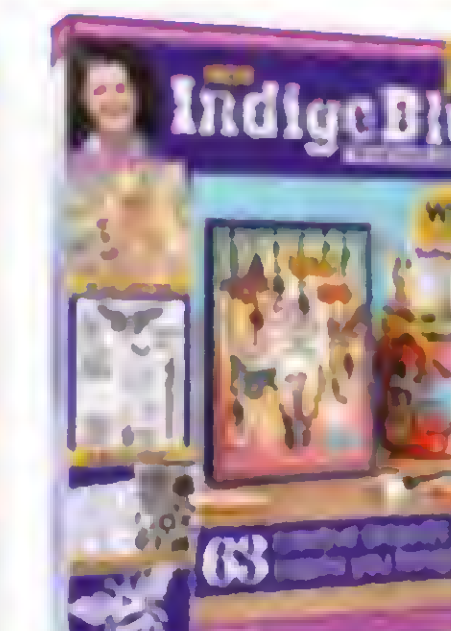
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Flower power



Helen Griffin

We take a sneak peek at the latest issue of *Simply Cards & Papercraft*, focussing on the off-the-page items you can make with the Layered Peonies dies & stamps!



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You'll need

- ▶ Layered Peonies stamp & die set
- ▶ pink, green, blue & white cardstock
- ▶ alcohol markers
- ▶ light pink, pink, light yellow & yellow inkpads
- ▶ We R Memory Keepers Gift Bag Punch Board
- ▶ manual die-cutting machine
- ▶ Tonic Studios Layering Circles dies
- ▶ 3D foam pads

Step by step

1 Trim pink cardstock to 10x7" and follow the instructions on the board for the medium-sized bag. Fold the score lines and glue the bag together.

2 Stamp the leaf images all over green cardstock and colour in. Trim to cover the bag front and back, leaving narrow borders.

3 Stamp the outline of the flower, followed by the full stamp in light yellow, then stamp the detailed image with the darker yellow ink.

4 Use the flower die to cut it out. Repeat with the leaves, but colour with a marker. Repeat with a pink flower.

5 Stamp the sentiment onto cardstock, trim into a banner and assemble all on the top of the box.

6 Die-cut two layering circles and glue to the front. Arrange the flowers, leaves and sentiment onto the circles as shown, then add ribbon handles.



Congratulations gift bag



Happy birthday

You'll need

- ▶ Layered Peonies stamp & die set
- ▶ pink, white & blue cardstock
- ▶ alcohol markers
- ▶ light pink & pink inkpads
- ▶ Onyx Black VersaFine inkpad
- ▶ scoreboard
- ▶ 3D foam pads
- ▶ manual die-cutting machine

Step by step

1 To make the box base, trim pink cardstock to 6" square and score at 2" on all sides.

2 For the lid, trim pink cardstock to 4" square and score at 1" on all sides. Fold the score lines, snip into the corners and glue together.

3 Glue a narrow strip of blue around the bottom edge of the lid, then stamp the outline of the flower, followed by the full stamp in light pink.

4 Stamp the detailed image with darker pink ink and die-cut. Repeat with the leaves, colouring as desired.

5 Stamp the sentiment onto a strip of cardstock, trim into a banner and assemble all of the elements on the top of the box to finish.

If friends were flowers

You'll need

- ▶ Layered Peonies stamp & die set
- ▶ blue & white cardstock
- ▶ light pink & pink inkpads
- ▶ alcohol markers
- ▶ small frame
- ▶ manual die-cutting machine

Step by step

1 Trim blue cardstock to a size suitable for your frame. Stamp the outline of the flower, followed by the full image in light pink.

2 Stamp the detailed image with the darker pink ink and die-cut. Repeat with the leaves, this time colouring with a marker.

3 Stamp the sentiment in the top corner of the blue panel and assemble the flower and leaves into the opposite corner.



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away

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Feeling totally paws-itive!



Celebrate birthdays in style with this set of cards that are ideal for dog lovers!

Friends furever easel

You'll need

- ▶ Nitwit Collections Paws-itivity Collection
- ▶ white matt 170gsm Inkjet photo paper
- ▶ dark pink A4 cardstock
- ▶ dark pink ribbon
- ▶ black gems
- ▶ glitter
- ▶ glue pen
- ▶ 3D foam pads
- ▶ computer, digital-editing software & printer

Step by step

1 In your image-editing software, resize the dog to approximately 12cm tall, then copy and paste several times to make découpage layers. Resize a heart to roughly 5.5cm tall x 6cm wide, a 'Friends furever' tag to 11.5cm wide and a rose to approximately 7cm long including a leaf. Copy and paste the rose for a découpage layer and type a sentiment to fit into the heart. Print out all elements and two patterned papers.

2 With dark pink A4 cardstock in the landscape position, find the centre on the long edge and make a mark 5.5cm down from the top. Repeat from the bottom then cut a 10cm straight line between the scored lines.

3 Find the centre of the left-hand panel, then mark and score down 5.5cm from the top. Cut a straight line from the end of this line to the end of the cut line and repeat from the bottom. Fold the card in half then fold again on the second set of the scored lines; the centre will pop

up, giving a shaped easel card blank.

4 Cut a 14x9cm piece of patterned paper for the centre of the card and two 6.5x5cm panels for the sides, then fix into place on the easel section. Wrap ribbon around the card front, adhering into place in the centre of the left-hand panel, then position a bow over the join.

5 Attach the heart at a jaunty angle using 3D foam pads. Add the wording using 3D foam pads and secure to the card front, again using 3D foam pads

and place over the ribbon on the right-hand panel.

6 Cut patterned paper slightly smaller than the easel base. Thread ribbon through the sentiment tag and arrange centrally on the paper, using a double layer of 3D foam pads. Fasten the ribbon ends on the reverse and layer onto the easel card base, leaving a narrow border all around.

7 Cut out the dog, leave a narrow white border all around, then add the découpage layers using 3D foam pads. Fix to

the centre panel, also using 3D foam pads. Cut leaves from the second rose and layer together using 3D foam pads. Decorate the centre with gems and glitter and affix to the bottom left of the sentiment tag.



Top Tip Apply a couple of layers of sticky tape to the back of découpage images that have narrow or small areas before cutting to add strength. This also makes cutting easier



A paws-itively wonderful birthday

You'll need

- ▶ white A5 card blank
- ▶ Nitwit Collections Paws-itivity Collection
- ▶ white matt 170gsm Inkjet photo paper
- ▶ blue, orange & red embroidery threads
- ▶ gems
- ▶ 3D foam pads
- ▶ computer, digital-editing software & printer

Step by step

- 1** In image-editing software, resize the dog tags to approximately 5.5cm and a sentiment tag to about 7.5cm long. Print the following: dog tags, sentiment tag, main background paper, matting paper, two patterned papers, a photo corner, a brown ribbon strip and a typed message.
- 2** Cover the card front with plain background paper. Cut the matting paper to 20.2x14cm, the main patterned paper to 19.5x13cm, a strip of paper to

19.5x4.5 and ribbon strip to 19.5cm long.

3 Matt and layer the papers onto the card front as shown, covering the overlapping patterned papers with the ribbon strip. Attach the photo corner using 3D foam pads.

4 Cut out the dog tags. Découpage the dogs' heads, leaving off the ears and collars. Punch a hole in the top and add a thread bow, then fix to the card front using 3D foam pads.

5 Arrange a sentiment tag at a jaunty angle, then use a 3D foam pad in the centre and a dab of tacky glue at each end to secure to the card front. Cover the tag holes with gems.

Top Tip

Cut papers to size in your digital-editing software before printing to save on paper and ink



You'll need

- ▶ white 19.5x14cm tent-fold card blank
- ▶ Nitwit Collections Paws-itivity Collection
- ▶ white matt 170gsm Inkjet photo paper
- ▶ Fun Sized font from www.dafont.com
- ▶ white cardstock
- ▶ lace
- ▶ glue pen
- ▶ glitter
- ▶ 3D foam pads
- ▶ computer, image-editing software & printer

Step by step

1 In image-editing software, resize the dog to approximately 8.5cm tall, then copy and paste several times for the découpage layers – this project uses five layers. Resize the flowers to fit the card front, then copy and paste several times for the découpage. Make a heart approximately 4.5cm tall and type out a sentiment. Print all the elements as well as the red background paper and a pink patterned paper.

2 Cover the card front with patterned paper. Secure



Happy birthday

one dog image to a 9.5x7.5cm piece of white cardstock then matt onto a slightly larger red rectangle. Découpage the dog layers using 3D foam pads. Run a line of glue around the edges of the white rectangle and sprinkle with glitter.

3 Cut out and découpage the flowers, adding glitter to the

centres. Cut out the sentiment, leaving a white border all around, then matt onto red paper and run a line of glue around the edges of the white rectangle. Sprinkle with glitter.

4 Take a 14cm piece of lace and run tacky glue down the straight edge, before fixing to the card front 3cm in from the left-

hand side. Attach the dog panel to the right-hand side of the card front, leaving enough room at the side for the top flower. Attach the top flower to the card front using 3D foam pads.

5 Arrange the flower group, heart and sentiment at the left-hand side of the dog panel, then adhere using 3D foam pads.

Hot diggity dog

You'll need

- ▶ white 14.8x18cm tent-fold card blank
- ▶ Nitwit Collections Paws-itivity Collection
- ▶ white matt 170gsm Inkjet photo paper
- ▶ red ribbon
- ▶ gems
- ▶ 3D foam pads
- ▶ computer, digital-editing software & printer
- ▶ hole punch

Step by step

1 In your digital-editing software, size a paper design to 14.4x18cm, resize all the dog images and arrange randomly over the paper, leaving some overlapping the edges.

2 Type a sentiment in white on a small piece of solid red background, then print the dog paper, sentiment tag, sentiment and solid orange background colour.

3 Cover the card front with background paper, then cut around the straight edges of the dog-patterned paper. After cutting out the sentiment tag, punch a hole at each end, add ribbon and arrange the tag in the centre of the dog paper with a double layer of 3D foam pads in the middle. Fix the ribbon ends in place on the reverse.

4 Attach the paper to the card front, leaving a narrow border. Layer the typed sentiment onto orange paper and adhere under the tag using 3D foam pads. Add gems to finish.

Top Tip After designing your dog paper, save the file to your computer – if you need a card in a hurry simply print out and make up



You'll need

- ▶ Nitwit Collections Paws-itivity Collection
- ▶ white matt 170gsm Inkjet photo paper
- ▶ white 15cm-square card blank
- ▶ embroidery thread
- ▶ small pompom
- ▶ gems
- ▶ 3D foam pads
- ▶ computer, image-editing software & printer

Step by step

1 In your image-editing software, resize the dog to approximately 8cm tall then

copy and paste. In a corner of the brown background paper, arrange the word 'CELEBRATE', resizing letters so the word is 13.5cm long and 2.8cm high. Print out the pawprint paper, polka-dot paper and brown paper with 'CELEBRATE' on, blue

background paper and dog layers.

2 Cover the card front with pawprint paper. Cut polka-dot paper to 9.5x12.5cm, blue paper to 10x13cm and brown paper to 10.5x13.5cm, matt together and fix to the card front.

3 Cut out the 'CELEBRATE' wording, leaving a narrow border of brown all around, then matt onto blue paper. Fix towards the left-hand edge of the card front using 3D foam pads.

4 From the second image of the dog, cut off the ears and tail and layer over the first image using 3D foam pads. Arrange the dog on the right-hand side of the card front, leaving enough space at the top for the party hat.

5 Cut a party hat from scrap paper, shape slightly and fix on the head at an angle using 3D foam pads. Cut two 2.3cm squares of paper and layer together using 3D foam pads. Wrap embroidery thread around it and tie in a bow at the top. Arrange at the side of the dog, overlapping slightly using 3D foam pads.

6 Add a small pompom at the top of the party hat, then adhere gems to finish.

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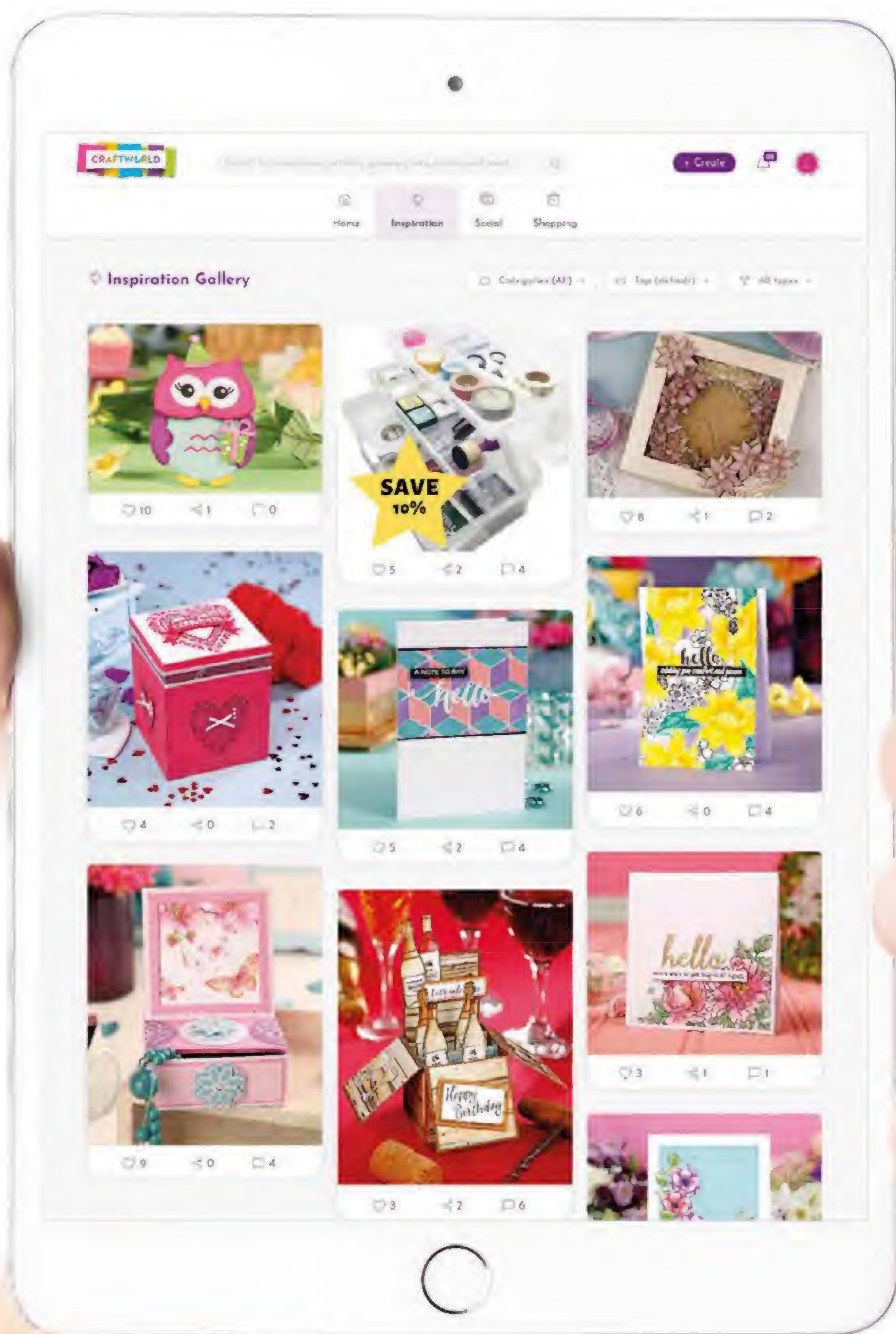
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New ways with Washi



We all have it in our stash, but have you thought about all the different things you can do with Washi tape? Nicky shares just a few ideas...

Celebrate

You'll need

- ▶ white 5x7" card blank
- ▶ black & coral cardstock
- ▶ acetate
- ▶ Craft Sensations Metallic Washi tape collection
- ▶ raindrop embellishments
- ▶ Crafter's Companion Gemini Expressions Celebrate die set
- ▶ Tonic Studios Champagne Flutes die
- ▶ manual die-cutting machine
- ▶ black 3D foam tape

Step by step

1 Cut a 10.5x15cm panel of acetate and cover it with strips of Washi tape, leaving spaces between the strips. Cover the card front with coral and black cardstock as shown.

2 Affix double layers of black 3D foam tape across the back of three strips and adhere the panel to the card front.

3 Cover black cardstock with silver glitter Washi tape and die-cut the champagne flutes.

4 Repeat using gold glitter tape to make the base for the sentiment. Die-cut a second sentiment base from acetate and the sentiment from black cardstock.

5 Use black 3D foam tape to layer the sentiment onto the acetate base, then again onto the gold glitter base. Affix the sentiment and champagne flutes to the card front.

6 Embellish with raindrops to finish.



Hello lovely

You'll need

- ▶ white 7"-square card blank
- ▶ white, coral & black cardstock
- ▶ Craft Sensations Metallic Washi tape collection
- ▶ heart nesting dies
- ▶ Bright Rosa Sentiment Words dies
- ▶ manual die-cutting machine
- ▶ 3D foam pads

Step by step

1 Affix torn strips of Washi tape diagonally across a 5" square of coral cardstock, leaving space around the edges.

2 Die-cut a large heart at an angle from the panel. Affix white cardstock behind, then layer onto a black 6" square and adhere to the card front.

3 Reduce the size of the heart die-cut using a smaller die. Cover black cardstock with silver glitter tape and die-cut the 'HELLO' in its frame, then repeat with gold glitter tape for 'lovely'.

4 Die-cut both elements and layer onto black panels. Arrange with the smaller heart on the card front as shown.



Top Tip Tear the tape for a natural look and alternate thick strips with narrow ones

You'll need

- ▶ white A6 card blank
- ▶ black & white cardstock
- ▶ Craft Sensations Metallic Washi tape collection
- ▶ sequins
- ▶ star nesting dies
- ▶ Bright Rosa Birthday Words die set
- ▶ manual die-cutting machine
- ▶ 3D foam tape

Step by step

1 Wrap lengths of Washi tape on a white 14.8x8.5cm panel. Cover the card front with black cardstock and affix the Washi tape panel using 3D foam tape.

2 Die-cut the 'HAPPY' sentiment from black cardstock and trim to fit over the Washi tape panel. Add narrow strips of glitter tape across the top and bottom.

3 Affix short lengths of diagonal stripe tape over white cardstock then die-cut the word 'birthday'. Affix to the black panel using 3D foam tape.

4 Use the tape to cover spare pieces of cardstock and die-cut into stars. Arrange on the card front as shown and add sequins to finish.

Happy birthday



New home

You'll need

- ▶ white 5½"-square card blank
- ▶ coral cardstock
- ▶ Craft Sensations Metallic Washi tape collection
- ▶ Onyx Black VersaFine inkpad
- ▶ sentiment stamp
- ▶ Dovecraft House die
- ▶ manual die-cutting machine
- ▶ 3D foam pads

Step by step

1 Using the die as a guide, arrange strips of Washi tape over three pieces of coral cardstock. Die-cut each one, then place three strips of glitter tape onto spare cardstock and cut an extra door for each house. Adhere the doors to the houses and open each one.

2 Affix strips of Washi tape across the top and bottom of the card blank, allowing room for the houses and a sentiment.

3 Stamp the sentiment in black ink. Use 3D foam pads to affix the houses to the card front.



Just for you

You'll need

- ▶ white 7"-square card blank
- ▶ white cardstock
- ▶ acetate
- ▶ sequins
- ▶ Craft Sensations Metallic Washi tape collection
- ▶ Bright Rosa Butterfly Band die set
- ▶ Sizzix Thinlits Phrases, Thank You & Flamingo die set
- ▶ manual die-cutting machine
- ▶ 3D foam tape

Step by step

1 Die-cut the large butterfly from a 7x5" piece of white cardstock and affix acetate behind the aperture. Apply 3D foam tape all the way round the back of the panel and directly around the butterfly.

2 Adhere strips of Washi tape diagonally across a panel of cardstock slightly smaller than the butterfly panel, then add a handful of sequins and seal the shaker element closed.

3 Affix the panel to the card front. Add strips of Washi tape across the top and bottom of the panel and card front.

4 Cover a smaller piece of cardstock with the tape and die-cut a smaller butterfly. Add stamens to each and affix the small butterfly to the card front.

5 Add a black die-cut sentiment to the right-hand side of the card front and add sequins around the butterflies to finish.

Where to buy

The Craft Sensations Metallic Washi tape collection is available from www.therange.co.uk

Purr-fect pets

Create all-occasion makes for the animal lover in your life



Colette Smith has created some beautiful pet-themed cards on page 84. We were especially inspired by this easel card so we have found some animal-related craft supplies to celebrate our furry friends!



1



2

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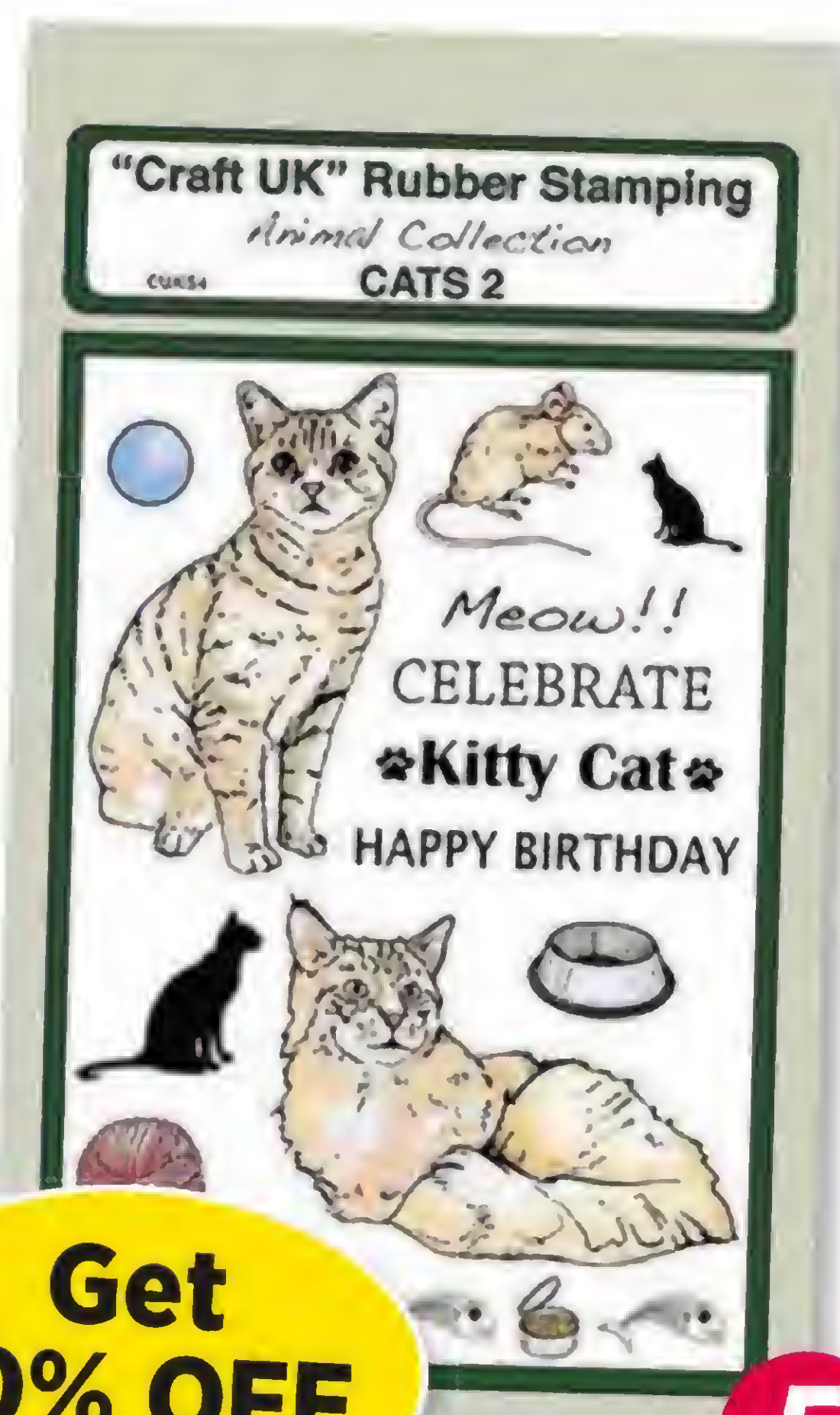
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1. Lawn Fawn Say What? Pets stamp set **\$8.00 (£6.21)** www.lawnfawn.com
2. Scarlett Rose Crafts Pearly Pets design disc bundle **£49.99** www.craftstash.co.uk
3. Sea Turtle WOW! embossing powder **£2.75** www.wowembossingpowder.co.uk
4. Dovecraft Bee Happy 12x12" paper pad **£12.95** www.susiebsupplies.com
5. Craft UK Animal Collection Cats stamp set **£11.99** www.craftstash.co.uk
6. Lavinia Mooch stamp **£6.80** www.laviniaastamps.com
7. Craft Sensations Nature (Rabbits) wooden shapes **£1.99** www.crafterscompanion.co.uk
8. Sizzix Thinlits Animal Bookmark die set **£10** www.sizzix.co.uk
9. Hunkydory Return of the Little Paws 8x8" paper pad **£9.99** www.hunkydorycrafts.co.uk

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The card expert

Hunkydory's Catherine Hollis is on hand to answer all your crafting queries

Easter wishes

I have been asked to make a cute Easter card, but don't have anything Easter-themed in my stash. I'm happy to buy some new products, but would prefer them to be something I can use throughout the year in a variety of ways. Please help!

Carol Blair, Bathgate

Catherine says: I have created this Easter card, trying to use as much as possible that you might already have in your current crafty stash. I have used

papers from the new Acorn Wood double-sided paper pad, which has pretty patterns on one side and cute woodland animal scenes on the other. I have used a variety of core dies to layer up and build the bunny shape and inked the edges with Prism ink to give a softer Easter bunny look.

You'll need:

- ▶ white 8"-square card blank
- ▶ Acorn Wood paper pad
- ▶ blue Acorn Wood Matt-tastic Adorable Scorable

- ▶ white & Black Ink Me! cardstock
- ▶ Mauve Moments & Thundercloud Prism inkpads
- ▶ Moonstone Ovals, Scalloped Ovals, Hearts & Circles dies
- ▶ lilac ribbon

- ▶ Purples Diamond Sparkles pearls
- ▶ Essential Book of Matt-tastic Sentiments 2020
- ▶ invisible thread
- ▶ manual die-cutting machine



Unless otherwise specified, all products are from Hunkydory

Stretch your stash

I'm looking for ways to stretch my topper sets as far as possible, without just making lots of small cards with the bits that remain. I would still like them to have the same impact and co-ordination as the first card from the set.

Katrine Atherton, Bude

Catherine says: A great way to extend your cardmaking possibilities when buying Topper Collections is to look out for any corresponding paper pads. I have used Acorn Wood for this 8x8" card and the only items that have come from the original topper are the bottom-right topper and

sentiment tag. The background papers and additional toppers are all from the Acorn Wood double-sided paper pad. I covered the card with one of the papers and with the second layer I divided it into four random shapes.

You'll need:

- ▶ white 8"-square card blank
- ▶ Acorn Wood Let's Celebrate topper
- ▶ Acorn Wood paper pad
- ▶ gold Mirri Card
- ▶ Essential Book of Matt-tastic Sentiments 2020
- ▶ Browns Diamond Sparkles pearls

Get in touch!

If you have any questions or queries for Catherine please email them to papercraftessentials@practicalpublishing.co.uk, putting **CRAFT EXPERT** in the subject bar



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